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G W A I T H  
LEWIS GLYN COTHI.

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THE  
POETICAL WORKS

OF  
LEWIS GLYN COTHI,

A CELEBRATED BARD,

WHO FLOURISHED IN THE REIGNS OF

HENRY VI, EDWARD IV, RICHARD III,

AND

HENRY VII.

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“ There is no part of English history since the Conquest so obscure, so uncertain, so little authentic or consistent, as that of the wars between the roses : historians differ about many material circumstances.” HUME.

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OXFORD,  
FOR  
THE CYMMRODORION, OR ROYAL CAMBRIAN INSTITUTION ;  
AND TO BE HAD OF H. HUGHES, ST. MARTIN'S-LE-GRAND,  
LONDON ; AND R. GEE, DENBIGH.

1837.



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TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

CHARLES WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN, M. P.

THIS VOLUME

IS

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

AS A TRIBUTE OF RESPECT

FOR


HIS UNWEARIED EXERTIONS

IN

THE CAUSE OF LITERATURE

BY THE

COUNCIL OF THE CYMMRODORION.



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## ADVERTISEMENT.

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THIS portion of Lewis Glyn Cothi's work is sent forth to the public in consequence of the continual demand made for it. The second portion, which will be found to contain more historical matter, will in due time follow, accompanied by a historical preface gleaned from the entire poems, shewing what part the Welsh nation took in the wars of the rival Roses; and also the reason why the South-wallians, during the disturbances in the reign of Henry VI, were principally attached to the house of York, and the Northwallians, on the contrary, to the house of Lancaster; and, lastly, the reason which induced the contending parties in both South and North Wales to unite together, and so become instrumental in placing Henry, duke of Richmond, on the British throne.

The Arms of Wales, prefixed to the work, are copied from the privy seal of Owain Glyndyvrwy, and presented to the Society by Sir Samuel R. Meyrick.

Communications tending to throw further light on the poems will be thankfully received. They

may be forwarded to John Parry, Esq., 17, Tavistock street, Bedford square, London; or to the Rev. J. Jones, Christ Church, Oxford.

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The following are extracted from the minutes of the Cymmrodorion :

“ The Council of the Cymmrodorion take this opportunity of tendering their best thanks to the Rev. John Jones, Precentor of Christ Church, Oxford, for preparing these poems for the press; and also to the Rev. Walter Davies, rector of Manavon, for his genealogical arrangements of them accompanied with historical notices.”

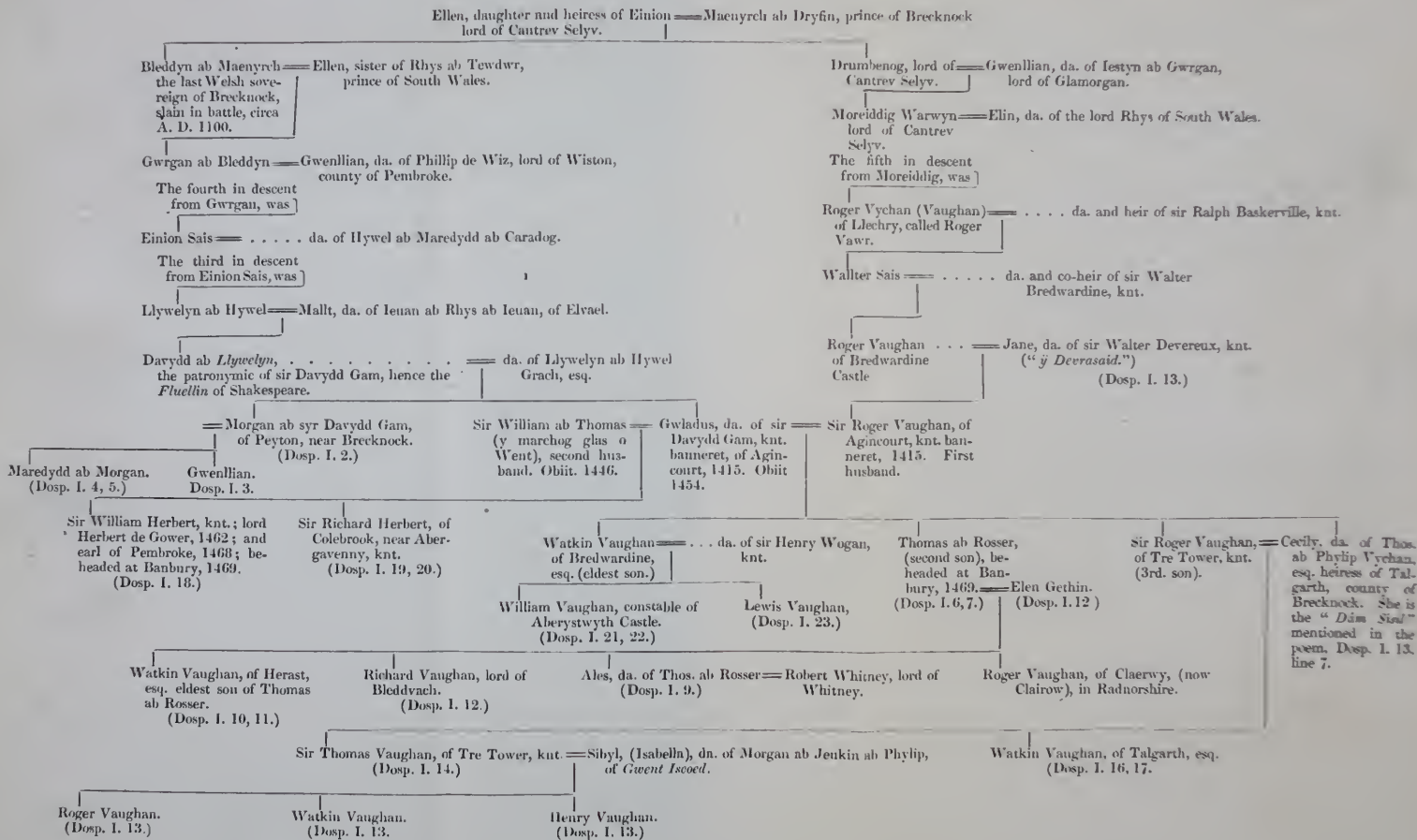
“ The Council of the Cymmrodorion take this opportunity also of acknowledging with gratitude the kindness and liberality of Col. Vaughan, of Rug, for having allowed the Rev. J. Jones to collate his transcript of the poems with the Hengwrt manuscript, said to be in the handwriting of the bard.”





# LLWYTH SYR DAVYDD GAM.

## THE TRIBE OF SIR DAVID GAM, KNIGHT BANNERET, OF PEYTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BRECKNOCK.



# GWAITH LEWIS GLYN COTHI.

## Y DOSPARTH I.

LLWYTHAU GWENT, MORGANWG, BRYCHEINIOG,  
&c.

### I.

MARWNAD GWLADUS ERCH DAVYDD GAM.

THE bard laments the death of Gwladus, whom he styles the star of Abergavenny,—the daughter of sir David Gam,—the strength and support of Gwent and the land of Brychan. So much was she beloved, that no less than three thousand attended her funeral. Her attention to religious duties is described as most exemplary; and she is said to have descended from an ancient and noble family. She is compared both to Marsia, queen of Cuhelyn, who was a discreet and an influential person; and also to Gwladus Ddu, a great supporter and promoter of the Welsh language. The bard concludes by giving a description of her monument.

Y SEREN o y Venni,  
At Duw a'r saint y troes hi;  
GWLADUS, lwyddiannus ddinam,  
Oedd o gorf syr Davydd Gam.

4

I. An elegy on Gwladus, daughter of sir David Gam: composed in 1454 or 1455. She was married twice. Her first husband was sir Roger Vaughan of Tretower, who went with his father-in-law to the battle of Agincourt in 1415, where both lost their lives in saving that of the king, having just before their death received the honour of knighthood. Her second husband was sir William ab Thomas of Rhaglan Castle, and by him she had William, the first

Herbert earl of Pembroke, and sir Richard Herbert of Coldbrook near Abergavenny; both of whom were beheaded by the Lancastrians after their defeat at the battle of Dancemore near Banbury in 1469. Sir William ab Thomas was buried at the priory in Abergavenny, in 1446; and Gwladus his widow in the same vault in 1454.

4. *Syr Davydd Gam*. "David Llewelyn or David ab Llewelyn, generally called David Gam, or squinting

Bwriodd Duw dan bridd-do ir Braich i Went a Brychandir; Nid llai'n mynu du'n ngwlad Went No theirmil yn ei <i>therment</i> .	8
Galw ar Iesu tra vu vyw, Ac ar y grog a oryw; Arglwyddes a santes oedd, O'r hen arglwyddi'r hanoedd.	12
Mac ei meibion hirion hi I roi gwleddau'n arglwyddi. MARSIA gynt, Cymmraes gall, Ar ddwy-iaith a roi ddeall;	16
A'i hil y bu'n Nhal-y-Bedd, Naw a'u henwau'n vrenhinedd. Gwladus, a hi'n gweled saint, Oedd ail hon i ddal henaint;	20
O hon y cawn vrenhinwaed, A Ieirll Gwent eurliw o'i gwaed. GWLADUS DDU, ar Gymmru gynt, Iarlles oedd er lles iddynt;	24
Ar ol ei rhoi ar elawr,	

David, was the fourth in descent from Einion Sais, and inherited the estate and demesne of Castell Einion Sais: his father Llewelyn had also purchased the mansions and lands of Peyton, (Wallice Pentyn,) now called Peityn gwyn, Peityn du, and Peityn glas, in the parishes of Garthbrengy and Llanddew, from William Peyton, (the last Brecknockshire resident of that Norman family,) for three hundred marks." *Jones's Hist. of Brecknockshire*, vol. i. p. 160.

5. *Bwriodd Duw*, &c. "God hath laid under a damp coverlet of earth her who was an arm to Gwent and the land of Brychan." Gwent, one of the six grand divisions of Dinewr, but all that goes now under that name is only a small district in the county of Monmouth. Brychandir, the land of Brychan, Brecknockshire, now also called Breconshire. The name is derived from Brychan, a prince or regulus of that country, who ruled over it about the year of

Christ 400, and died in 450, or thereabouts. See *Jones's Hist. of Brecknockshire*, vol. i. p. 1, &c. *Myv. Arch.* vol. ii. p. 29. *Cambro-Briton*, vol. i. pp. 169, 170.

7. *Nid llai*, &c. "No less than three thousand all clad in mourning were present at her (interment) burial."

13. *ei meibion hirion hi*. Her son, sir Richard Herbert of Coldbrook, was called by the Welsh, by way of distinction, sir Richard Herbert *hir*, or the tall.

15. MARSIA, &c. Queen of Cuhelyn, the 24th king of Britain, according to Brut Gr. ab Arthur. See *Myv. Arch.* vol. ii. p. 158.

16. *a roi* = a roai.

23. GWLADUS DDU, &c. daughter of Llywelyn ab Iorwerth. She was married twice. Her first husband was Reginald de Breos; and the second, sir Ralph Mortimer, lord of Wigmore, by whom she had Roger Mortimer, ancestor to Edward IV.

Yr aeth leng o'r iaith i lawr ;	
A heddyw mac'n rhoddi medd	
O vron hono vrenhinedd.	28
Ail Gwladus, haul goleudent	
Cymmry, oedd acw ym mro Went ;	
Dyhuno a chyfröi	
A wnaeth yn oes ein iaith ni.	32
Ysgrin ar gysegr o Went	
Sy dŷ arglwyddes dwy-Went ;	
Pond teg paentiad y gadair !	
<i>Pinagls</i> val pen Eglwys Vair.	36
Main beryl, nawmil yn wyn,	
Marmawr a mwy o crmyn.	
Bedd yr holl voneddd yw vo	
Oll, a <i>grovndwal</i> Lloegr yndo.	40
Mac'n gorwedd mewn gweryd	
Draw'n y bedd draian y byd.	
Yn seren ar ben y bedd	
Y rhoed i gadw enrhodedd,	44
Maes glas val cledd Pandrasus,	
A'r llew <i>lir</i> ; a'r lliw o lus.	

29. *Ail Gwladus*, &c. "A second Gwladus, who to the Cymmry was like the sun, the pavilion of light, lived in the region of Gwent."

33. *Ysgrin*, &c. "A shrine on a sacred spot in Gwent is the domicile of the lady of both the Gwents." Here follows a description of the monument in the priory at Abergavenny, which is curious; but difficult to be explained. It was a sarcophagus, with twelve angels (argent), three on each side with bugles sounding the praises of the deceased heaven-high; others with torches, or flambeaux, offering incense, — the flames ascending. Hermits, or rather monks, chaunting requiems for the departed souls. The monument most probably was erected to the memory of sir William ab Thomas before the death of Gwladus his widow, who survived him eight years.

34. *Dwy-Went*; namely, Gwent

Iscoed and Gwent Uwch Coed.

35. *Cadair*, a tomb or monument.

39, 40. *Bedd yr holl*, &c. "The tomb of all the nobility it is; the stay of England is contained in it." This last expression alludes to sir William ab Thomas being buried there, whose mother was a Morley and his first wife a Berkley.

40. *Grovndwal*, sail, sylvia; a foundation, a stay. *Yndo* = ynddo.

43. *yn seren*, &c. an allusion probably to her statue surmounting the sarcophagus.

45. *Pandrasus*, a king of Greece; according to Brut G. ab Arthur.

46. *llew lir*. "Lion argent." *Lir*; lyre, lyre; white complexion.

"Hir lyre wes lyk the lillie."

*Chr. Kirk, st. 3*

The arms of the Herberts, descendants of sir William ab Thomas, were party per pale, azure and gules, three lions rampant argent.

O gylch y twr yn gylch teg	
Duw a oedd, ev a'r deuddeg.	48
Engylion gwynion i'w gylch	
A drig bob dri i'w ogylch ;	
Organau oll hyd vrig nev,	
Ac arianllais côr unllav ;	52
Mil o <i>dyrs</i> amlw o dan,	
Mil eraill aml o arian ;	
Mwy no mil o veudwyaid	
Dan gŵyr, bob deunaw, a gaid ;	56
Yn nesav mae deunawsaint	
Yn bwrw naw <i>sens</i> ger bron saint.	
Main beryl cyleh Syr Wiliam	
Oedd vedd gwyn merch Ddavydd Gam ;	60
Duw a wnaeth i'r Deau nawdd,	
Duw Iesu a'i dewisawdd ;	
Ac o'i rhyw'n benaig y rhawg,	
Y dewiswn dywysawg.	64

53. *Tyrs* = torches.58. *sens* = incense.

## II.

## MARWNAD MORGAN AB SYR DAVYDD GAM.

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MORGAN is described as ranking first among the nobility; and, by way of compliment, is styled the spotless stag of sir David Gam. His grave is stated to be in Llan Vaes; and that over his remains the land of Brychan melted into tears like the falling of the rain on the festival of Cewydd, which lasted for forty successive days. His residence was at Peutyn, and his children were numerous. He is therefore in this respect compared to Llywarch Hen, who was a prince and a warrior; and all his sons heroes.

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Y PENAETH yn mhob bonedd	
Sy'n Llan Vaes winllan, a'i vedd;	
Morgan, carw divan DAVYDD	
GAM, yw'r sant i Gymmry sydd.	4
Llan Vaes oll yw nev i wyr,	
Lle mae eilwaith llew milwyr;	
Lle rhoed tarian a maneg	
Llan-Dduw dan y llen ddu deg.	8
Gwlad Vrychan am Vorgan vydd	
Ail i gawod ŵyl Gwydd.	
Deugain niau davnau dwyr	
Ar ruddiau yw'r aweddwyr.	12
Deugain mlynedd i heddyw	
Yr ŵyl y beirdd ar ol y byw.	
Dwyvil achaws mab Davydd	
A dwy vwy'n y Deau vydd.	16

11. An elegy on Morgan ab sir David Gam. His arms, on the dexter side argent a chevron gules between three cocks of the second, are the arms of Einion Sais, borne by Morgan ab sir David Gam. The sinister, a chevron between three spears' heads, were probably the arms of Morgan's wife from Aidan of Gwent.

2. *Llan Vaes*, St. David's, a church and parish adjoining the town of Brecknock. It is also called Llan

Dduw, corruption of Llan Ddew, and both from Llan Ddewi. Theophilus Evans, author of *Drych y Priv Oesoedd*, in the last century, was vicar of this parish as well as of Llan Gannmarch.

10. *Cewydd*, a saint whose history is not known, to whom there is a church dedicated in Glamorgan.

11. *Deugain niau*, &c. Forty days. *Diau* = dyddiau.

14. *yr ŵyl* = yr wylant.



Edn Aber Hodni obaith, Silin oedd i seilio'n iaith. Yn y Peutyn un <i>patent</i> , Deutu Wysg hyd at dwy Went.	20
Braich Cymmry wrth Groesty 'r grog, Bar a chynhor Brycheiniog. Tŷ Hu Gadarn teg ydoedd, Pwys ei dŷ ar un post oedd ;	24
Pwys gwlad Vrychan yn rhanu, Ar ryw bost o wr y bu. Y tir weithion, mal traethydd, Ar swrn o bilerau sydd.	28
Mae irgoed o vrig Morgan Mewn y rhos yn mynu rhan. Aeth llawer o gyd-geraint O Einion Sais hen yn saint.	32
Bro Wysg a aeth yn brysgoed ; Ond gwyr a aned o'i goed. O un cyff iawn yw caffael Deri, a hwynt yn dra hael.	36
Ev oedd ddâr, ev oedd eryr, VORGAN ; aeth ei vrig yn wyr. Rhyhaval, drwy'r ardaloedd, I Lywarch Hen ; v'alarch oedd.	40
I Lywarch y bu lewod, A gwae wyr byw Lloegr eu bod. I Vorgant, hyd Nant y Nordd, Ar Loegr mae'r ail welygordd.	44
Plant Brychan a gyd ranodd, Plant sydd i Vorgant un vodd. Plant Evrog, oediog adail, O dre Iorc hevyd yw'r ail.	48

17. *Aber Hodni*=Aber Honddu, the town of Brecknock.

19. *Peutyn*, the family mansion.

27. *Y tir weithion*, &c. "The land now (i. e. Morgan's estates) rests upon many pillars, (i. e. upon his children), like an actor" upon a stage who is supported by many props.

Some Scripture mysteries may have

been acted in the bard's days upon such stages in Wales.

It is stated above (l. 24) that the weight of Hu Gadarn's house rested upon one pillar, that is, upon himself. The same might be said of Morgan's whilst he lived ; but now that he was dead his estate was divided between the children.

43. *Nant*, &c. the river Humber.



Morgan oedd darian i'w dir,  
A braich hendaidd Brychandir.  
Morgan oedd bum rhan i'r byd,  
A llyvr i bob lle hevyd.  
Llewod Morgant, blant un blaid,  
Ger bron gwyr yw Barwniaid.  
A llew henddoeth gwyr Llan-Dduw,  
Yw 'r Barwn doeth ger bron Duw.

52

## III.

I VORGAN AB RHYS O LAN DEILO VAWR, AC I WENLLIAN  
EI WRAIG ERCH MORGAN AB SYR DAVYDD GAM.

IN this poem addressed to Morgan, on his having succeeded to his father's property, the bard compliments him on his profuse liberality—the extent of his wealth—the kindheartedness and excellency of his wife. And then, as a faithful chronicler, he traces out their pedigree.

Y LLEW rhy hael yn lle Rhys	
Yn ei winllan a'i wenllys.	
Morgan van Llandeilo Vawr	
Mae'n mynu mwy no maenawr;	4
Hwn yw un hael, hyn yw 'nhyb,	
Hof o Wilym ab Philyb.	
Arver a ddel o werin,	
O Ronwy Goch ranu gwin;	8
Mae'r gwin gan Vorgan tra vo,	
A meddiant yma iddo.	
Nid hael dau hyd yn Euas,	
Ond dau o lan Tywi las;	12
Mae'r geiriau i ddau un ddeall;	
Morgan, Gwenllian yw'r llall;	
Gwawr Vorgan o lin ddinam	
Dda, ac ŵyr syr Davydd Gam;	16

III. Addressed to Morgan ab Rhys ab Gwilym ab Philip of Llandeilo Vawr, and his wife Gwenllian daughter of Morgan, son of sir David Gam. Morgan ab Rhys is described as a descendant of Elystan Glodrydd: and by the arms given him—argent three boars' heads conped sable (*penau baeddod*) he was from Cadwgan, son of Elystan. The bard also grants him the arms of Urien, (see l. 33) in the right of his wife. Gwenllian is said (in lines 23, 24) to be first cousin to William Herbert, earl of Pembroke. See *Dosp. I. 2.* the elegy on the death of Morgan, father of

Gwenllian.

1. *yn lle Rhys.* "In the room of Rhys," his father.

7. *Arver a ddel, &c.* "Custom is derived from the multitude; but from Gronwy Goch, to dispense the wine."

12. *o lan Tywi.* Morgan lived near the Tywi.

14—17. *Gwenllian, &c.* "The other is Gwenllian of Morgan (her father's) complexion, of good and unexceptionable line, being the granddaughter of sir David Gam."

16. *ŵyr*, a grandchild, whether male or female.



A'i llaw y myn Gwenllian	
Ranu'r gost i'r hen a'r gwan;	52
Morgan a ran i bawb rodd,	
Yr hynaiv gynt a'i rhanodd;	
Gwenllian, erch Vorgan, vydd	
(Ei wraig) un oed a'r gwinwydd:	56
I henaint yr êl hono,	
A'i hoedran ar Vorgan vo.	

57. yr êl = yr eled.

## IV.

## I VAREDYDD AB MORGAN AB SYR DAVYDD GAM.

THIS ode is a good specimen of the *clera* address. And, be it observed, in the bard's time the *clera* (that is, minstrels, at stated times, perambulating the country from one gentleman's house to another, to receive contributions) was very frequent. And there can be no doubt but that several of our bard's compositions were written for such occasions. He however appears to have been a no mean minstrel; for wherever he went, he received a hearty welcome; and his poetry was listened to with attention. He was often, by means of his *awen*, able to rouse the warrior to deeds of arms; and also from his inveterate hate of the English nation, to infuse the same spirit of hatred into his countrymen. He indeed in this particular succeeded but too well. See Dr. W. O. Pughe's Dict. under *Clér*, for an account of the origin, &c. of minstrelsy.

Mi av cyn yr hav, vy rhan vu rhedeg  
At V'redydd ab Morgan;  
Minnau gav yma'n gyvan  
Mwy aur vath no thalm o'r Van. 4

O Van uwch Deni i Vynyw, i Von;  
I Venni, i Gernyw;  
I Gaerdyv, gorau ydyw  
Y dewr o dir Ytrad Yw. 8

Ystrad Yw, Cernyw, yn cau arnam aed  
I ŵyr Davydd Gam;  
Y Deau vo wlad ei vam,  
Iddo iso hyd Ewsam. 12

Duram, ac Ewsam, ac asen Ystlwy,  
Ac ystlys mor Havren;

IV. Addressed to Maredydd ab Morgan ab sir David Gam. He used his father's arms, but changed the party per pale into four quarters. See note to Dosp. I. 2.

4. *O'r Van*. The Sugar Loaf, a picturesque conical rock, near Abergavenny.

5. *O Van uwch Deni*. The Breck-

nockshire Beacon, above the Llyn Cwm Iâlweh.

9. *Ystrad Yw*. The district around Crug Hlywel, on the confines of the counties of Brecknock and Hereford. It is divided into Ystrad Yw Uchav and Ystrad Yw Isav.

12. *Eiesam*, the vale of Evesham, Worcestershire.

Dwy Bowys a Chaer Swys wen,  
Dwy Wynedd gyda'i onen. 16

Ev â'i onwayw a'i vwa annel,  
Yw braich Ystrad Yw, megys Brochwel;  
A bod rhyw dramgwydd ar bob Gwyddel,  
Neu ar wyr y nordd yn naiar *Nél*. 20

Ev yn cau arnai sy vaen cornel,  
Ev aeth â'r gware; ev biau'r bêl;  
Ev a âi atynt lwy â'i vetel;  
Ev a'i wyr hevyd, ev i'r rhyvel; 24

Ev yw'r dewrav a'r gwayw uvel;  
Ev yw'r haelav, yn cadw ei avel,  
O dalvaine Bristo, dros dwy Elvael;  
O odre Lleyn, dros dir Llywel; 28

Margaret erch Tomas rhoes win Rhosiel;  
A chansaig ar wledd, a chwe honsel;  
A chyda phob gwledd y medd o'r mel;  
Ac aur gyda'r medd yn ddau gwarel; 32

Yno y dywaid hi yn dawel  
Obry â'i blasus barabl isel;  
A ddon' o ddynion val at Ddaniel,  
Croesaw Duw wrthyn' o ddyn a ddêl. 36

Hwn yw'r gorau yn dwyn swyddau dan sel;  
Hithau'n ail orau dan law Uriel;

15. *Caer Swys*; an old Roman station near the Severn in the parish of Llanwnnog.

20. *Ar wyr y nordd*, &c. The northern troops, who had killed Mareddydd's cousins at the battle of Banbury, headed by sir Henry Nevill, here called *Nél*. He was taken prisoner at the battle, and executed by Herbert earl of Pembroke, which so exasperated the Lancastrians that they in return would give the Welsh no quarter.

21. *maen cornel*. "A corner-stone," in masonry; the strength of the wall. Mareddydd is here compared to it, as

being the supporter and the strength of his country.

27. *Bristo*=Bridstow, a parish in Herefordshire.

27. *Elvael*. A district in Radnorshire, divided into Elvael Ismynydd and Elvael Uwchmynydd.

28. *O odre Lleyn*, &c. *Lleyn*, a promontory in Caernarvonshire. *Llywel*, a church and parish in Brecknockshire.

29. *Gwin Rhosiel*=Rochelle wine.

32. *Ac aur—yn ddau gwarel*. "Pieces of gold of a quadrangular form." *Lewis Morris*.

38. *Uriel*, the name of an angel.

Nawdd Andras ar hwn; nawdd Banasiel;  
Nawdd Dduw ar hono; a nawdd Rhiniel. 40

Dau osawg a gyrch, wrth ddau dasel,  
I dyrau'r awyr drwy yr awel;  
Y gog a achub brig diogel  
I ganu'n awchus, ac yn uchel; 44

Uwch no dim yw nev drev ddiravael;  
Yno i ddringo ydd â yr angel;  
Dringav deg gauav uwch Crug Hywel,  
I'r tai rhy-iachus, a'r tir uchel. 48

Am ŵyr Davydd Gam, nid val llen gêl,  
Y mae son yn Mon val Llyvr Manwel;  
Iesu a'i gato yn ngwisg ôtel,  
I dynu naw swydd dan un sel. 52

Mae rhai a lechai bob gwyl uchel;  
Mae haelion gwyhion ni châr gochel;  
Cybydd a ymgudd ac a ymgel;  
Ni chais Mareddydd na chudd, na chêl. 56

Pob gwledd a rhysedd, val rhoi wassel,  
A rydd Mareddydd, Mair i'w adael!  
Pob gwin ac arian, pob rhyw ganel;  
Pupur ac oraens, pob rhyw gwrel; 60

A phob da gobraf mae'n ei gafael;  
A phob da a wnaeth val corf Abel;  
A phob rhyw dyrva a wna, a wnel;  
A phoed yn ganmlwydd; arglwydd ydd êl. 64

39. *Andras*. A saint who lived in the fifth century.

39. *Banasiel*; 40. *Rhiniel*; names invented by Arabian writers to represent aerial beings, guardian angels, demons.

41. *Gosawg*, Gosshawk; *gwalch*; frequently used as a complimentary term like *eryr*, *hydd*, *llew*, &c. *Tasel*, tassell, a male hawk: *llymysten*, *cudyll*, *ciryll*.

50. *Llyvr Manwel*. A manual; a small book of devotion; a breviary: *llaw-lyvr*.

51. *ôtel*. *A l'hôtel*, the cry of the heralds to the combatants, that they should return to their dwellings. *Meyrick's Ancient Armour*, vol. ii. p. 190.

58. *Mair i'w adael*. "The Virgin Mary permitting (allowing) him."

59. *Canel*, cinnamon.



## V.

MARWNAD MAREDYDD AB MORGAN AB  
SYR DAVYDD GAM.

THE bard appears astonished that no one had come forward to avenge the premature death of Maredydd; and, as one wearied of the delay, opens his poem with great spirit, demanding the reason of such neglect. The least punishment, he says, that could be executed upon his enemies was to have sacrificed the life of twelve of them; but not even this had been done. He is inconsolable on account of the death of Maredydd; and, as it were, turning himself towards Llan Vaes, where Maredydd and his father were buried, confesses that he had a mournful strain to pour forth there over departed worth. Immediately upon this, as if inspired with the spirit of prophecy, he solemnly declares that Maredydd's death should not remain unavenged; for that the men of Ystrad Yw would rise to arms, and summon the entire country to their assistance. He then states that it would be difficult to find his like again; and how painful it was to live without him. And, in conclusion, he promises himself a pilgrimage to Llan Vaes, to view the two graves that were near the altar.

Ba ddellw na bai ddialledd  
Am un a vai mewn ei vedd?  
Am nodi vy mhenadur  
Y dêl dost dial a dur; 4  
Lleia' tâl, pe gellid hyn,  
Oedd gael deuddeg o'i clyn;  
A dwyn ei genedl yn dâl,  
Es dwyoes nid oes dial. 8  
Ym y rhoed, er mwyhau rhus,  
Ddwy alarwisg ddolurus;  
Gŵn Varedydd gân vrodiad,  
A gŵn du Morgan ei dad. 12

V. An elegy on Maredydd ab Morgan ab sir David Gam. In the last ode Maredydd is represented as one of the warriors of that warlike age; and it appears by the poem before us that he fell in the pursuit of his favourite amusement. It is probable that Maredydd fell in a skirmish between the abettors of the rival roses.

He was entombed contiguous to his father's monument, near the altar, in the church of St. David's, adjoining the town of Brecknock.

1—2. *Bai, a vai* = byddai, a vyddai.

8. *Es dwyoes, &c.* "For too long a time has Maredydd's death remained unavenged."

9—12. *Ym y rhoed, &c.* "To me



Y mae awdl yn amadlaes	
A luniav vi i Lan Vaes ;	
Ac ar bob pennill trillev	
A glywir dros gwaliau'r drev.	16
Bwrw llew glew val mab iarll glân	
A bair ochi'n nhir Brychan ;	
<i>Gwyr</i> a wna, o Gernyw i Ial,	
<i>Ystrad Yw</i> vwstr a dial ;	20
Llu dwy-Went oll a'i diail	
Ac o Lys Wen Eglwys Iail.	
Anaml yw, hyd Nannmel hwnt,	
Ei ail yma ŵyl Emwnt ;	24
Suliau, a Grawys cilwaith,	
A diwedd gŵyl a dydd gwaith ;	
Nadolig, pa'm nad wylwn ?	
Hevyd y Pasc vod heb hwn.	28
Ni a awn bawb yn unnod	
Hyd Lan Vaes lle dylwn vod ;	
Lle maen' oll yn min allawr,	
Dau wely mewn adail mawr :	32
Gwely murgalch gloyw Morgan,	
Gwely ei vab wrth gil y van.	
Cwyn prydydd am V'redydd vry	
Oedd awdl, a chywydd wedy ;	36
Cwyn tant am ei vabsant vo,	
Oedd i V'redydd gerdd vrido.	

have been given, to increase my agitation, two mourning, pain-exciting garments; the one a vest of white embroidery, which was Maredydd's; and the other black, which had belonged to his father."

13—14. *Y mae awdl*, &c. "An ode of heavy mournful strain is the one I design for Llan Vaes."

19—20. *Gwyr a wna* &c. "The men of Ystrad Yw will invoke the whole country to arms from Cornwall to Ial." *Ial*, a comot in Denbighshire.

22. *O Lys Wen*, &c. "From Llys Wen in Eglwys Iail." Llys Wen, on the banks of the Wye, was formerly one of the mansions of the princes of South Wales. It was situated in the comot of Eglwys Iail in Ystrad Yw Uchav, Brecknockshire.

24. *ŵyl Emwnt*, the festival of St. Edmund, king and martyr, kept on the 22d Nov.

33. *gerdd vrido*. "An incentive song," alluding probably to poem, Dosp. 1. 4.

## VI.

## MARWNAD THOMAS AB RHOSSE, ARGWLWYDD HERAST.

THIS poem commemorates the battle of Danesmore. It opens with stating it to have been one of the most bravely contested engagements that ever took place in Christendom; and in the next moment we are told how it was lost; and what dreadful havoc the enemy committed there among the Welsh. The bard carries us, as it were, into the scene of conflict; and we can fancy we hear the war-shout of the different battalions, and the clashing of arms. He describes lord of Herast, and his division, as having fought and suffered desperately; and how he fell at the head of his men like Arthur who was slain at the battle of Camlan. He next alludes to the valour, the mighty personal strength, and the virtues of the lord of Herast. After mentioning the death of others, who fell in the battle, he records the lamentation of Ellen Gethin, the widow of the deceased; and promises that the death of the lord of Herast should be speedily avenged by his three sons.

Y MAES grymusa' o Gred,  
Ac o wall ev a gollod;

VI. An elegy on Thomas ab Roger, lord of Herast. There was something like a fatality in the family; for Thomas Vaughan, the subject of the present poem, who was beheaded at Banbury in 1469, being close upon sixty years of age at the time, was the second son of sir Roger Vaughan, son-in-law of sir David Gam. See note to Dosp. I. 1. Thomas Vaughan was a man of extraordinary size and of great strength. In consequence of which he has been styled "Thomas Vawr, arglwydd Herast;" and one of his Vaughan ancestors bore the appellation of Roger Vawr, father of Gwallter Sais.

1—2. *Y maes* &c. "A most strenuously contested battle; and it was through heedlessness that the field was lost." The enemy were at Danesmore in Northamptonshire, about five miles from Banbury. At the command of the king (Edward IV.) the earl (Herbert) of Pembroke had hastily drawn together ten thousand Welshmen; and when he arrived at Llandeilo Vawr made his will on the altar in the church, reserving 4000 marks of his

own money in pocket to defray expenses. On his arrival at Banbury he was joined by lord Stafford with 800 bowmen; but the two chiefs quarrelling about lodgings at Banbury, they separated forces. But Pembroke hazarding an engagement was defeated, and taken; and beheaded the next day at Banbury. Compare sir Thomas Herbert's account with that of Hume.

Although the above untoward circumstance contributed greatly to the discomfiture of the Yorkists; yet the following anecdote will explain more precisely the bard's meaning, as well as the real cause why the battle was lost, when he says that it was lost *o wall*, that is, from heedlessness, or want of caution and self-possession.

"The earl of Pembroke fought with the most determined bravery, as did his brother sir Richard Herbert, who with his poleaxe in his hand forced his way twice through the enemy's ranks and returned in safety. Victory was on the point of declaring for the Welshmen, when a *ruse de guerre* turned the fortune of the day. John Clapham, esq. one of the retainers of

Yn Manbri y bu'r dial  
 Ar Gymmru deg, a mawr dâl ;  
 Yno clywid, yn unawr,  
 Griaw maes rhwng gweywyr mawr ;  
 Rhai Harbart, rhai'n Edwart ni,  
 Iarll Warwic, eraill Harri.  
 Dan vaner arglwydd Herast  
 Y bu'r tor, a'r briw, a'r *tast* ;  
 Tomas, rhwng y ddwy sias ddig,  
 Ab Rhosser a'r pâ'r ysig.  
 Arthur, pan vu'n ei guras,  
 Yn mlaen llu Camlan y llas ;

the earl of Warwick, was seen mounting up the eastern hill ; and though only attended by 500 of the rabble from Northampton and the neighbouring villages, he displayed in front the banner of the earl with the white bear, and his followers raising a shout of " Warwick ! Warwick !" the Welshmen thinking the great earl was actually advancing with his forces, fled in utter dismay, and were slain by their pursuers without mercy ; insomuch that 5000 were left dead in the field, including sir Roger Vaughan, Henry ab Morgan, Thomas ab Richard Vaughan, and Watkin Thomas, son of sir Roger Vaughan. Among the prisoners were the earl of Pembroke, and his brother sir Richard Herbert, who with ten other gentlemen, were taken to Banbury, and there beheaded." Baker's History of Northamptonshire, vol. i. p. 500.

5—6. *Yno clywid*, &c. " There was heard in one simultaneous shout, a crying out among the mighty spearmen, some calling Herbert, some Edward, others the earl of Warwick, and others Henry."

7. *Hart*. Sir William Herbert, earl of Pembroke, who received that title on the forfeiture of Jasper Tudor after the siege of Harlech castle.

*rhai'n Edwart ni*. " Some calling our Edward," i. e. Edward IV. From the bard's introducing here the pronoun *our* (ni) ; and also from his employing his pen to lament the fall of the partisans of Edward, one would be inclined to infer that he was a Yorkist. But as he is reported to

have been a Lancastrian in the service and pay of Jasper Tudor, it is not unlikely but that he might have been hired to write by *Elin Gethin*, the widow of the lord of Herast, or *Hergest*, in Herefordshire ; whence came the MS. called *Llyr Coch*, now in the library of Jesus College, Oxford. However, it would seem, after all, that he was attached in earnest to neither party ; for in this poem he does not lament that the Yorkists were defeated at Banbury ; but what occasioned his full grief was the fall of his countrymen there. He was national to excess ; and his antipathy to the English was extreme.

8. *Iarll Warwic*. The earl of Warwick, who had been sent out to the court of France to carry on a negotiation there for the marriage of the princess of Savoy with (Edward) the king of England, on his return finding that the king had secretly married Elizabeth, widow of sir John Grey, and daughter of the duchess of Bedford by her second husband sir Richard Wideville, was in conjunction with Lewis, king of France, so greatly incensed against Edward, that he ever afterwards endeavoured to have him dethroned.

*eraill Harri*. Henry VI. who was at this time confined in the tower by order of Edward.

11. *Sias*, a chase (at tennis) ; a game ; a play : *pel-odrig* ; *chucareu*. Here an encounter, a fight, a combat, or engagement : *ymgyrch*, *ym-ladd*, *ymosawd*.

Ac yntau'i hun ac nid hawdd	
A dwylaw a'u dialawdd.	16
Tomas a las val Iesu,	
A phan las â phen ei lu;	
Tomas yn ei guras gwyn	
A'i talawdd hwnt i'w elyn;	20
Petai ddwrn tradwrn, a'r tri	
Mwya' unbraint, yn Manbri;	
Ev a wnai a wnelai naw	
Wedi'r ellwng law drallaw.	24
Ni chavas lle llas y llall,	
Gwir gŵyr y gwr, ac arall;	
A pheî cawsoedd lle'dd oedd ddau,	
Gwir gŵyr ev a gai'r gorau.	28
Pan vu vatel a'n gelyn	
Yn Manbri oer yn mhen bryn,	
Deuwr aeth, ni chad yr un,	
Iarll Gwent; arall o Geintun.	32
Yr oedd ar ŵyr Voreiddig	
Gampau oedd dda, heb gamp ddig.	
Ni vynodd yn ei vaenawr,	
Drwy ei waith ev, un dreth vawr;	36
Ond gwared ar gyfredin	
A rhanu oll i'r rhai'n win.	
Rhyveddod llyvr gwybodol	
Vyw y neb a vai'n ei ol.	40
Elin Gethin vu'n wylaw	
Ddevni gwlith yn ddavnau gwlaw:	
Ac er wylaw gwroliaeth	
Vry yn ol, ei varw a wnaeth.	44

19. *curas gwyn*=whitharnais. A cuirass; a polished steel armour: *lluryg*.

25—28. *Ni chavas* &c. "It has not been found where the other was killed: it is true one man knows, and another (God) also; and if it could be discovered where the two *antagonists* met, it must be by means of him who gained the day; for he certainly knows."

32. *Deuwr aeth*, &c. "Two chiefs went, not one returned, the earl of Gwent, and another from Kington."

32. *Ceintun*. Kington, or Kineton, a market town in Herefordshire.

33. *ŵyr Voreiddig*. *Wyr* means here not a *grandson*, literally; but a descendant of Moreiddig Warwyn, who was a brother's son to Bledwyn ab Maenyrch, lord of Brecknock.

Hi a wnaeth yn hyn o ŵyl Yn Herast i hwn arwyl. Wedi hwn y dyhunant Dri val Sior a Dervel sant.	48
Mae tri ar vedr ei ddial, Mae un Duw'n rhoi i minnau dâl ; Mastr Watcyn, vab impyn per, Meistr Risiart ; a Mastr Rosser.	52
Amcen tri meib Cwstenin A vu wyr traws i vwrw trin ; Hwynthwy ddielyn' eu tad Ar Loegr, cyn hun ar lygad ;	56
A rhai'n, cyn nemawr o hav, A ry maes o'r grymusav. Ar ddeuddydd newydd yn un A roddo mab Mair iddyn' ;	60
Mewn y lle a'r man y llas, Duw a ymwan am Domas. Delw Vair a'i dial e vo, Duw cilwaith a'i dialo !	64

49. *Dri val Sior*, &c. "Three of like valour with St. George and St. Dervel;" namely, the three sons, Watkin, Richard, and Roger.

52. *Meistr Risiart*. "Master Richard." He died young. See his elegy, Dosp. I. 12.

53. *Amcen* = amcan.

## VII.

## MARWNAD ARALL AR THOMAS AB RHOSSEK.

THE bard was probably within sight of Herast, when he began this elegy; for the opening language of it is that of a person looking from a distance, after a long absence, at a favourite spot which he was now hastening to revisit. According to his account of Herast there were eight strong buildings, or fortresses, on the estate; and in each of them a refectory, and a good stock of wine. The poet presents us with a graphic description of the family monument, which, according to his delineation of it, must have been exceedingly handsome. And by way of winding up, Watkin, the eldest son of the lord of Herast, is complimented as being a warrior, and descended from a noble and ancient race.

HAWDDAMMAWR ! heb un awr *wast*,  
 I'r tir, a'r tai o Herast ;  
 Tai rhwym mewn tyrau meinin,  
 Tir ac wyth tŷ i roi gwin ; 4  
 Tai clos Tomas ab Rosser,  
 Tai ar lun twr Alaher.  
 Pan las Tomas Latimaur  
 Yn Manbri gynt mewn brig aur ; 8  
 Ddyw Sul ei arglwyddes ev  
 I'w dai gwydr a'i dyg adrev.  
 A wnaeth Rhods, a'i hewythr hen,  
 Yn wyth *hâl* a wnaeth Elen. 12  
 Costiaw bedd concwest o bell ;  
 Mwy yw'r cost no mur castell ;  
 Mae 'scriven uwch ben y bedd,  
 Mae dau o enwau'n unwedd, 16  
 Enw Domas hael, nid mwy saith,  
 Enw Elen yno eilwaith.

VII. Another elegy on Thomas ab Roger, lord of Herast.

1. *Heb un awr wast* = Heb un awr o goll amser.

5. *Tai clos*. "Compact mansions."

6. *Twr alaher*. Alhambra, an ancient castle and palace of the Mo-

ammedan kings of Granada.

7. *Latimaur*, Latimer; (*hence*, *lledmerydd*); an interpreter: a herald. *Here* a term of compliment.

12. *Elen*. Ellen Gethin, the widow of Thomas ab Roger.



Bobparth i'r bedd y gweddyn	
Byst ar gaer <i>alabastr</i> gwyn ;	20
Ac ar hwn gwr o henaŵr,	
A gwraig wen dan grug o aur ;	
Engylion yngŵ cilwaith,	
A vu'r un heb darian vraith ?	24
Gwaith da ocdd, dyddgwaith a dau,	
Goreuraw'r gistaid greiriau ;	
Gwely'n vraig a'i liw'n ei vrig,	
Gloew 'sgwar val Eglwys Gurig ;	28
Careg nadd val craig wen yw,	
Crud maen côr Dewi Mynyw ;	
Cofr yn wyn nis cyfry neb,	
Caer wen yn cau ar wyneb.	32
<i>Ystil</i> uwch ben y milwr,	
Ysgrin o gylch esgyrn gwr ;	
Allawr vaen val y lloer vawr,	
A'r eurlliw ar yr allawr ;	36
Llun prenvŵl dan gŵyr golau,	
Llun côr ar vrawd iarll yn cau.	
Over yw bedd dan vur bas	
Wrth y <i>tŷm</i> yr aeth Tomas.	40
I Domas mae bedd damwain	
Yn nghrug o aur, yn nghaer gain ;	

23. *Engylion*, &c. "Angelic figures on the tomb, bearing escutcheons with the arms of the Vaughans emblazoned."

24. *darian vraith*. "An emblazoned shield."

25. *dyddgwaith a dan*. "Three days."

28. *Curig*, a saint and founder of several churches in Wales. On the bank of the Wye, on the road which leads from Llanidloes to the Devil's Bridge (Pont ar Vynach), there is an eminence called *Eisteddŵa Gurig*, that is, "the resting place of Curig," so called, probably, in allusion to some circumstance in his legend. We learn from our bard that his images were hawked about for sale ; for he says (in Dosp. IV. 1),

Un a arwain yn orïog  
GURIG lwyd dan gwr ei glôg :  
Gwas arall a ddwg SEINTIOL

A naw o gaws yn ei gôl.  
33. *Ystil*=Steel: armour. Here a representation of a suit of armour on the monument.

37. *Llun prenvŵl*, &c. "The representation of a wooden (chest) tomb beneath a lighted taper."

38. *vrawd iarll*. Thomas ab Roger was brother by the same mother to William Herbert, earl of Pembroke.

40. *Over yw bedd*, &c. "Insignificant is the grave, over which is built a humble monument, when compared to the tomb (*tŷm*) in which Thomas is laid."

Cad ail bedd Huail ei hun, Caer Gaint i'r carw o Geintun.	44
Un nerth a Thomas verthyr, Un wyrth oedd hwn wrth ei wyr.	
Mastr Wateyn yw'r gwreiddyn gras, Myntumiwr <i>iemyn</i> Tomas;	48
Eryr doeth ar wyr ei dad, Oen Duw eilwaith ein dwywlad;	
Brig Moreiddig, a'i wreiddin, Blaen wythran Elystan lin;	52
Sylvaen Bleddyn ab Maenerch, Sel Einion Sais linon serch.	
Duw gwyn! cadw Wateyn a'i dent, Duw! llun eryrod Llinwent;	56
A aned yn ei ynys Ei gystal, walch Hergest lys?	

43. *Cad*=caed=cawwyd. *Huail*, one of the sons of Caw, who distinguished himself in the wars of Arthur.

44. *Caer Gaint*. Canterbury.

45. *Thomas Verthyr*. Thomas à Becket.

48. *Iemyn*=*Ywmen*=Yeomen.

52. *Elystan*. Elystan Glodrydd, or Athelstan, a prince of the territory between the Severn and the Wye, towards the close of the tenth century. He had the earldom of Hereford in right of his mother.

53. *Bleddyn ab Maenarch*. The brother in law to Rhys ab Tewdwr, prince of South Wales. He was an ancestor of Thomas ab Roger, and fell in battle whilst fighting against Bernard Newmarch and his Norman freebooters, in the year 1092. With Bleddyn perished the independence of Brycheiniog as a British state or province. He was buried at Ystradflur, or strata florida abbey, in Cardiganshire.

56. *Eryrod Llinwent*. "The eagles of Llinwent." By which epithet the bard probably meant Watkin Vaughan and his two younger brothers. See Dos. I. 6.

*Llinwent*, Leintwardine, a village

and valley on the confines of the counties of Hereford and Salop, about seven miles from Ludlow. There is a place called *Llinwent* in the parish of Llanbister, Radnorshire, where David Vaughan, brother of *Ellen Gethin*, the mother of *Watkin Vaughan of Herast*, was killed in a family affray, as appears by the following anecdote, copied from *Lewis's Topographical Dictionary*, art. *Glasbury*.

"A singular instance of the ferocity of one of the female descendants of the *Vaughan* family is preserved in an old MS. pedigree:

"*Ellen Gethin* (or the terrible) of Hergest, a *devilish* woman, was "cousin-german to John Hir ab Phillip Vaughan, who was killed "by the said *Ellen* at David's "church, for that he before had "killed her brother, David Vaughan, "at *Llynwent* in Llanbister, Radnorshire."

If this anecdote has any foundation in truth, our bard begins his elegy (Dos. I. 12) on the death of Richard, son of *Ellen Gethin* of Hergest, in very appropriate terms, when he says,

"Pregeth i *Elen Gethin*,  
Yn vy myw a wna vy min," &c.



Od â 'r haul i'r dwr heli,	
Od â tes hyd atai hi ;	60
Od â carw i redeg gorallt,	
Od â 'r iwrch i rodiaw'r allt ;	
Od â 'r gweilch bob dri i goed,	
I Lew Herast êl hiroed.	64

## VIII.

## AWDL I SYR RHOSSEYR VYCHAN, O DRE Y TWR.

IN this ode the bard implores sir Roger to muster *a posse comitatus* in Wales, and to march against the English of the north in order to be revenged upon them for having beheaded his brothers, Herbert, earl of Pembroke, and Thomas Vaughan (or, ab Roger) of Herast, together with several more of his relatives, at Banbury, in July 1469, after the battle of Danesmore.

Syr Rhosser gwycheder bro Gwent a Chymmru,  
Chwi yw Emrys *Parlment* ;  
Od oes golud dysgwylent  
Yth dâl, ail Dyvnwal, a'th dent. 4

I'th dent y mae 'stent mwya' stôr,—marchog  
Am orchest pen-cynhor ;  
Sev, iaith Roeg ; sav i'th ragor ;  
*Treia* am waith tir a môr. 8

Pob tir a gerddir, pob ton o *havnau*,  
Y hovnir waith dy fon ;  
Pena' wyd oll pan y dôn',  
(Un Duw gŵyr,) ond y goron. 12

I'r goron tirion wyt wr, yn llawn mwyn,  
Lle ni mynaist *favwr* ;  
Arth vry ydwyt wrth vradwr,  
Tâl vrad trwy genad un Gwr. 16

Un twr, un milwr, un melan Cymmru,  
Un Cymmro o wythran ;

VIII. An ode addressed to sir Roger Vaughan of Tretower, knt.

Greeks going against Troy.

5. 'stent=ystent ; hen gartrevle : an old family mansion.

11. *dôn'*=dônt=deuant.

16. *un Gwr*, meaning, God.

7. *iaith Roeg*, an allusion to the

17. *un melan*=malen : one armed in steel.

Syr Rhosser os arosan',  
Tâl di am Vanbri'n y van. 20

Cur garliaid, v'enaïd ! vuanwyr trwy vrad,  
Myn ini daliad am ein dolur ;  
Na chysg yn eu mysg ; myn y mur a'u tai  
Yn un o'u darnau val y dyrnir. 24

Gwna lu Deheubarth megys Arthur,  
A mwstria Gymru, meistr a gym'rîr ;  
Ac â'th fyn-gleiviau gyrau gaerwyr.  
Del divai rediad ; dial dy vrodyr : 28  
Wrth dy vodd curiodd caerwyr o hiraeth,  
O, dêl divrodiaeth ! dial dy vradwyr.

O gwnaeth y Saison, gâlon gwelw-wyr,  
Y boreu 'n irad â'u braenarwyr ; 32  
Gwna dithau voren, vy eryr ! i'th bais,  
Caerloew chwerwlais, cur eu charlwyr.

A thrwy dre Warwig, a thro draw weywyr,  
Myn bwniaw y bobl am na baen byhyr ; 36  
Cur yna vloneg y carnvileinwyr,  
Val berau cogau, val briwo cegyr ;  
A myn waed am vrad i vrodyr o 'stâd,  
Na myn addaw gwaed ; ond menyddiau gwyr. 40

Pan ddêl yr amser c'weiria, v'eryr !  
Eto a gosod at dy gaswyr ;  
Cymier, ewyn vaner i vyny trwy'r byd,  
A myn eu dilyd am ein dolur. 44

Bydd gall, v' anwyl ! baedda guellwyr,  
Mae bwriad eto, mae brad i waetwyr ;

21. *cur garliaid*, "fight and beat the clowns." The common acceptation now of *carl*, *cerlyn*, is a niggard ; a close-fisted fellow ; one who grudges himself and his family the common necessities of life.

27. *Fon-glair*, a halberd : *fon-vryall*.

28. *Dêl divai rediad*, "may a successful attack be made."

33. *Val berau cogau*, "like cooks' spits : " i. e. pierce the enemy as cooks spit the meat.

43. *cwgn-cwna* ; from *cwennu*, to lift up.

Mae rhai anghyvion val anudonwyr,  
 Es mil o oesoedd, oes maleiswyr. 48  
 Na chred vuaned vu anwyr feilsion,  
 Myn waelhau Saison a'u malais,—Siswyr !

Gwna dân is Havren mal yr henwir  
 Drwy Warwig fyrnig a'i hufernwyr ; 52  
 A threv Gaer-y-Gloew veddw, ni veddir  
 Un o'i bath ; galwed '*Yn boeth y gwelir.*'  
 Hensiest anonest a ennynir yn dân,  
 Pob Sais o geulan, ac a welir. 56

Ve ddaw rhyw geidwad val y gwadir  
 Pob gair o Sais'neg, ni vynegir ;  
 A phlaid Brutaniaid a enwir yn ben,  
 A gwyr y gregen oll a grogir. 60

Tithau Syr Rhosser, megys eryr,  
 Sydd a bwriadau swydd Beredur ;  
 Pen wyd lle'r hanwyd lle'r henwir *ystâd* ;  
 Eirioldwv rediad, rheol dy vrodyr. 64

Dy vrodyr oedd wyr îr ddewrion rhyvyg  
 I ryvel y daethon' ;  
 Drwy vrâd y llacs y Saeson,  
 Tâl Syr Rhosser yr her hon. 68

50. *Siswyr*. The hissing men ; a term of reproach for the English from the letter *s* occurring so frequently in the English language.

55. *Hensiest* = Hengist, i. e. the followers of Hengist ; all the English.

56. *Pob Sais o geulan*, &c. "every Englishman, whether in his hiding-place or otherwise."

60. *y gregen* = *y greg-iaith* : "the English language."

63. *Peredur*, one of king Arthur's knights : the Peredur ab Evrog of

Romance.

64. *Eirioldwv rediad*, "govern (take the lead of) thy party ; for it is the path (course), *pointed out to him* who has sprung up to be the advocate."

67. *Drwy vrâd y llacs*, &c. "The English treacherously slunk away." An allusion to lord Stafford withdrawing himself and his men by night from Banbury, instead of remaining to cooperate with the earl of Pembroke at the battle of Danesmore.

## IX.

PRIODASGERDD RHOBERT WHITNAI, ARGLWYDD  
CHWITNAI O SWYDD HENFORDD.

THE bard compliments the lord of Whitney on his having married a lady who belonged to so celebrated a family as that of the Vaughans. His choice he compares to the choice of him who would prefer the sun to a star. He alludes to his property—his mansion—and to the number of spearmen under his command. He pays the bride a compliment on the neatness and richness of her dress. Indeed throughout the whole ode he compliments first one, then the other, in a way which could not but prove gratifying to both of them.

O Dduw ! pwy 'n nglân Gwy a gai arabeddd  
Mastr Robert Whitnai ;  
Eryr *ystans* o'i groesdai  
O Drysel âch heb dras lai. 4

Mae tras priodas, heb ddim pryder mwy,  
Merch Tomas ab Rosser ;  
Meistres Alis dewiser,  
Mal dewis haul yn mhlaid ser. 8

Ser ar bob *cwrs*er o'r cwrt,  
A llyn a bwyd er llanw bort ;  
Oer wyv pan welwyv ei wart,  
Od air heb dyrau Rhobert. 12

Mae y meistr mau mewn tyrau'r tad,  
Mwnai 'n ei ogylch mwy no *Newgad* ;  
Meirch a gweywyr òn yn mraich y gad,  
Mwy no rhiv y plwyv mewn arvau plad. 16

IX. An epithalamium addressed to Robert Whitney, lord of Whitney, in the county of Hereford, on his marriage with Ales (Alice) daughter of Thomas ab Roger, (Dosp. I. 6, 7.) lord of Herast. When commissioners were appointed in the 12th year of

Henry VI. to return a list of all the principal inhabitants of the county of Hereford, &c. Robert Whitney's name appears in the list of the knights. See an anecdote of him, in Camb. Regist. vol. i. p. 59, &c.

12. *Od air heb* = os eir hebiaw.

Mae Meistres Alis mewn twr caead,  
Mwnai a thrysor main a thrwsiad ;  
Hi a wisg ddywllun *ddamasc* ddillad,  
*Siamled* o velved un ddyvaliad. 20

Ac a arwedd aur uwch grudd a iad,  
Ac a wisg *garlond*, ac ysgarlad ;  
Ac a eilw Iesu am oes gleisiad,  
A naw oes y dwg hono *ystâd*. 24

Mastr Rhobert hael a eilw Elvael wlad,  
Meistr yw yn rhoi ym ystôr yn rhad ;  
Mae 'n Ustus cyviawn yma 'n wastad,  
Mae yn eiste ar swrn o'r mastr *Siad*. 28

Ni bo a brovo iddo ddim brad,  
Ni bydd dragywydd achos, nis gad ;  
Tra llong âg angor ar vôr, neu vâd ;  
Tra vo lliw awyr, tra vo lleuad. 32

Mae 'n llys yr arglwydd pawb a'i gwyddiad,  
*Hynsmen* a *Ywmen* yn ddiymwad ;  
*Cwrseriaid* euraid yn gweryrad,  
Cyrn, bwa i ryvel, ceirw yn brevad. 36

Milgwn yn Whitnai, can' bytheiad ;  
Cynyddion ddigon yn ddiwygiad ;  
Ceginau Ystwyll, cogau 'n wastad ;  
*Bwtri*, *seleri*, seiri 'n siariad. 40

Ac o'r llys gwerin yn chwerthiniad,  
Ac o'r tŵr can'-wr heb gael cenad ;

20. *Siamled*, camlet, or camlet : a fine stuff, composed of a warp and woof, originally made of camels' hair only.

22. *garlond* = a garland : *coronbleth*.

28. *Mae 'n eiste*, &c. "He sits in judgment upon many a *Chade*," that is, upon many of the disaffected. *Chade* alluded to here is probably the same as *Jack Cade*, a native of Ire-

land, who, in 1450, excited a rebellion ; and at the head of 20,000 men of Kent entered London in triumph, under the assumed name of John Mortimer. But afterwards a price being set on his head he was killed by one Iden, a gentleman of Sussex ; and many of his followers were capitally punished for their rebellion. *Hume*.

Ac o'r wraig egin, a llin benllad ;  
Ac o'r gwr eppil, a hil, a hâd. 44

Amen ! hil a had val y mynai hon,  
O hwn arglwydd Whitnai ;  
Yn eu llys yn lle osai,  
Ac yn eu tŵr gwyn a'u tai. 48

Tai rhwydd v'arglwyddes, tai v'arglwydd, val tes,  
Tyrau y santes ydyw'r seintwar ;  
Tŵr mastr Rhobert ynn, tŵr gwell no'r Tŵr Gwyn,  
Tŵr clærwyn Gwynvryn y gwr gwâr. 52

Pa dai yn bump *dîs* sy hwnt val Sandwis ?  
Bond tai i Alis ar ben talar ?  
Y gaer yn nglan Gwy, ev â hon yn vwy  
No thyrau'r *Sioswy*, no thai'r *Sisar*. 56

Nid gwaeth, ar draethen, tai Nudd Whitnai wen  
No thai clusen a wnaeth Lasar ;  
Nid ynt waeth ill dau am win i minnau,  
No blodau'r Deau drwy holl daiar. 60

Rhwyddach eu rhoddion, o law hwn val hon,  
No dwr yr avon i'r gwirion gwâr ;  
Teg oedd anrhegu aur i Vair a vu,  
I weled Iesu o Valdassar. 64

O'u mwn aur, a'u medd ; o'u da ill deuwedd ;  
O'u gwledd ni'm gomedd y ddau gymmhar ;  
Rhent o'u tir hwyntau a gawn, a gynau,  
Amryval lysiau, bwydau ar bâr. 68

Amryw vwyd môr vydd, mewn bro a mynydd,  
Mwy o wirodydd, amryw adar ;

51. *Tŵr Gwyn*, "the White Tower," in London.

52. *Gwynvryn* = Whitney, in Herefordshire.

53. *Sandwis* = Sandwich ; one of the cinque ports.

57. *Nudd*, Nudd Hael, one of the

three generous men of Britain ; hence, a bardic epithet for a generous person.

64. *Baldassar*, or Baltassar ; a feigned name given to one of the three wise men of the east.

68. *ar bâr* = ar ddarpar.



Arthur ni'm gwrthyd, un yw hwn o hyd,  
A hono hevyd yw Gwenhwyvar. 72

Och i'r Sais ucho, o'u caer nis caro ;  
Ac oerchwedl iddo'r Cymmro nis câr ;  
Deiniol, sain Denis, Cedwyn a'u cedwis  
Dewi, Non, Elis, Dwynwen, Ilar. 76

Iddynt oes Moesen, a hyd oes Noe hen ;  
A dwyoes deubren, derwen a dâr ;  
Ac iechyd i gychwyn a rydd Mair iddyn',  
A hir oresgyn, a hwy'r ysgar. 80

Hwyr yr ysgaront, a hwy eu heinioes  
No'r hynav hyd Vynwy ;  
I roi aur îr ar aerwy,  
I lenwi'r gwin ar lan Gwy. 84

75. *Deiniol*, a saint, who founded a college at Bangor in 516, which was made a bishoprick ; and he was ordained the first bishop by Dyvrig.

*Sain Denis*, Saint Denis.

*Cedwyn*, a saint and founder of some churches in Wales, about the beginning of the seventh century. *Llan Gedwyn*, in Denbighshire, is dedicated to him.

76. *Dewi*, Saint David, the patron saint of Wales. He was made archbishop of Caerlion in 522, on the resignation of Dyvrig. He founded the see of St. David's about the year 523.

*Non*, the mother of St. David.

*Elis*=Elias=Elijah.

*Dwynwen*, a saint, the daughter of Brychan Yrth ; feigned by the bards to be the goddess of love. *Llanddwyn*, in Anglesey, is dedicated to her, which was much resorted to in former times, by votaries bringing offerings to procure the good offices of Dwynwen to soften the hard hearts of the objects of their affections.

*Ilar*, Saint Hilary. Saint Hilary, in Glamorganshire, and *Llan Ilar*, in Cardiganshire, are dedicated to him.



## X.

## CYWYDD I WATEYN VYCHAN, O HERAST.

THIS poem is addressed to Watkin Vaughan in his character as a warrior; and as one who possessed such influence over the Welsh, that they would at any time, were he to wish them, immediately rally round his standard from all parts of the country. The bard displays a great degree of shrewdness and tact in thus addressing him; for he had a point to gain; and that was, to induce him to avenge his father's death; which request it would have been premature for him to make, as yet; but which he did in the poem that follows the present one.

MAIR a roes nev yn mhresen  
 Ar *ystâd* yn Herast wen;  
 A'r Mastr Wateyn rymusdal,  
 A roes Duw yn wr *ystâd*; 4  
*Ystâd* yw bod yn gadarn,  
 A bod yn ddoeth i roi barn;  
*Ystâd* yw costiau dwy iaith,  
 A rheoli rhai eilwaith. 8  
 Llawer barn ar *Whitharnais*,  
 Lle daw, 'r sant o Wallter sais:  
 Ev yw'r cledd o Ddovr i'r Clas,  
 Ac hyd Hymyr; benaig Tomas! 12  
 A vo prophwyd, dw' dwy-tol  
 Tri'gain, as y trig yn ol.  
 A dawo a wrandewir,  
 O dewi gwers y daw gwir: 16  
 Gwateyn a dŷn, ac a dau,  
 Ac a orvydd âg arvau;

X. A poem addressed to Watkin Vaughan, of Herast, esq. He was the eldest son of Thomas ab Roger (Dosp. I. 6); and his wife was Sibylla, daughter of sir James Baskerville, of Eardisley, knt.

9. *Llawer barn*, &c. "Wherever the descendant of Gwalter Sais makes

his appearance, clad in his cuirass, he will excite great attention."

11. *Clas* = Clas ar Wy: Glasbury in Brecknockshire.

12. *Hymyr*, the parish of Humber in Herefordshire. Also the river Humber.

17. *a dau* = a dawa.

Arav a gwyllt, rhov a gwig,	
Ar y nhyb rhai annhebyg ;	20
Peri a wna â'r pren òn	
Gwylltineb, golli dynion.	
Ni wna, 'n y dyrva y dêl,	
Aravwch vawr o ryvel :	24
Gwateyn sy vlodeuyn doeth,	
Ac aravddewr digrivddoeth ;	
Ev a estwng ar vaesdir,	
A'i eiriau teg, wyr y tir ;	28
Rhai diovn rhag ovn rhyw gâd,	
Rhaco eraill er cariad ;	
<i>Abeio</i> y ddwy Bowys	
A wnaï vo a phen ei vys.	32
Ni wnaï na'r Dwdlai, na'r Dug,	
Na'u gwyr vwy nog a orug.	
Gwlad Bowys, mamwys y medd,	
Yw ei genedl, a Gwynedd ;	36
Galwer dan ei vaner vo	
Ddeunawtir, nhwy ddôn' ato ;	
Cedewain a Chaer Einion,	
Ceri, ac Arwystli gron ;	40
O Lundain i Vechain vawr,	
O Gyveiliawg i Vaelawr.	
Can' castell dano bellach,	
Can' trev vawr, can' tyrva iach ;	44
Can' caer, cyn darfo'r <i>concwest</i> ,	
Can'-wr riv â'u can'-wayw rest ;	
Cant o veirch, cynta' o vil,	
O gan'-meirch i ugeinmil ;	48

19. *rhov*=rhyngov.

21. *Abeio*, "to bring (into obedience) under subjection."

33. *Dwdlai*, John Sutton, lord of Dudley, who was a staunch Lancastrian until Edward IV. obtained the crown when he joined the Yorkists. *Dugdale's Baronage*.

33. *Dug*, perhaps Richard, duke of Gloucester.

39—42. *Cedewain*, *Caer Einion*, *Ceri*, *Arwystli*, *Mechain*, *Cyveiliog* ; are all of them either lordships, or manors, in Montgomeryshire.

*Maelawr* ; there are two *Maelawrs* ; namely, *Maelawr Gymmraeg*, the lordship of Bromfield in Denbighshire : and *Maelawr Suisoneg* in Flintshire, detached from the body of the county.

Ugeinsir hyd vrodur vryn,	
Ugeinwlad yn ei ganlyn ;	
Ugeinsel o vrig <i>Winsawer</i> ,	
Ugain swydd i'm arglwydd mawr.	52
Gwateyn ar dervyn ei dir,	
Yn varwn ev a eurir ;	
Barwn vu'r tad credadwy,	
Barwniaid vu eu hendaidd hwy ;	56
Barwn yw, heb air yn <i>wast</i> ,	
Iarll hir vo'r llew o Herast.	

## XI.

## AWDL I WATCYN VYCHAN, O HERAST.

THE bard in the last poem complimented Vaughan on his valour and popularity. In the present ode he congratulates him on the great wealth which he possessed. And with respect to his late father he says, that, when among his enemies, he was like a hawk, which wherever he makes his appearance causes such a movement among the birds that they fly away in all directions. Immediately after this he says that the son must be of the like temperament with the father. He then, alluding to the preparation that was going on to repair the loss sustained at Danesmore, urges him to come forward and take signal vengeance upon the English. The ode concludes with wishing him a safe return, and a long enjoyment of the festivities at Herast.

MASTR Watcyn penrhyn gwin pêr, a *damasg*;  
 Mab Domas ab Rhosser;  
 Mal y tad chwi yw'r *pader*,  
 Mal y saiv canmil o ser. 4

Rhiver yr holl ser sy airon rhyvedd!  
 Rhiver gro yr avon;  
 Rhivo gwlith y vro ar vron,  
 Yw ei ruddaur a'i roddion. 8

Lle y rhoddo'r gwalch balch vlaen ei big,  
 Y ffy'r adar yn gyffröedig;  
 Ein hebog nid oedd annhebyg benrhaith;  
 Hwn nid â ymaith o'i hen dymhig. 12

Gwnaethwyd er llynedd, wr boneddig!  
 Gyweiriaw brwydr y gwr briwedig:

XI. An ode to the same Watkin Vaughan, of Herast, esq. This second ode appears to have been written (see line 13) the year after the battle at Danesmore.

Gwarchadw a chadw, ac ychydig—*Vowart* ;  
Gwart gydag Edwart vendigedig. 16

A diva *aliwns* diavaelig,  
A chwiliaw onwydd yn ddichlynig ;  
A thrin â gwaedlin ar gig a gwythiau ;  
A pheri angau i'r gwyr Frengig. 20

Mae'r ynys, weithion yn mron sythig,  
Yn wastad tanoch ac yn ystig ;  
Mastr Watcyn myn wrth y menyg, a'r fou ;  
Lluddiaw hocedion val lladd coedwig. 24

A'th gledd bydd geidwad yn voneddig ;  
Ar erydr ac âr ar odre gwig ;  
Ar *gwmmin* werin hyd gaer Warwig gron,  
Ac ar y gwirion o'th gaer geryg. 28

Y gyvraith vydol sydd ganolig ;  
A'r gyvraith eilwaith fydd gatholig  
Ar *glosydd* y saint ; ar eglwysig wyr :  
Ar y llavurwyr oll i Verwig. 32

Myn ddiva'r lladron, vy mhendevig !  
*Ordeinia* i eraill *bardwn* orig ;  
Ennyn y gyvraith unig i Gymmru ;  
O vro Dôl Arddun vry i Dalerddig. 36

15. *Vowart* = vaward : vaward ; vanguard. "The king's *vaward* came to Mount L'herry where the earl of St. Paul lodged." *Historic of Philip de Commines*, 4to. edit. p. 9. "Vawarde, battel, and rerewarde, are now the terms for the three (lines, or) battails." *Note by the editor of de Commines's*.

21. *sythig*, being in a torpid or benumbed state. *Y sythbysg*, the torpedo.

29. *Y gyvraith vydol*, &c. "As the civil law is but ineffectually binding, so likewise the ecclesiastical law upon those who live in *cloisters*," &c.

31. *Clos*=clas ; the cloister of a church.

32. i *Verwig*. "As far as Berwick," i. e. Berwick-upon-Tweed. There is a place called *y Verwig* on the sea-coast near Cardigan.

36. *Dôl Arddun*, a gentleman's seat, near Welsh Pool. The earl of Richmond is said to have halted one night at this mansion when on his way to Shrewsbury before the battle of Bosworth.

*Talerddig*, a manor in Cyveiliog in Montgomeryshire. Within it once stood a chapel of ease to the mother church of Llanbryn Mair.

Ac o vrig Ystwyth, hyd Amwythig,  
 O dir, eto, Iâl, hyd Ryd Helig;  
 O Raidr i Lan Rewig Arwystli;  
 A throsti o Geri; i Lan Gurig. 40

*Ordeinia* yn dda, ac na vydd ddig,  
 Watcyn i Vreiddin, ŵyr Voreiddig;  
 Ac o Vreiddin vryn i vrig Caer Einion,  
 Ac o Gaer Einion i gwr Anwig. 44

Wyd gledd ar Wynedd hyd Arenig,  
 Ac o holl deudir gysylltedig;  
 Ac o ystlys llys Gelliwig i'r nordd;  
 Yngo o Henvordd hyd yn Nghynvig. 48

A chadw Herast yn llewychedig,  
 A Duw 'n dy gadw i'th dent gauedig;  
 A gwisg, dan sidan *glossedig*, darian;  
 A gwisg lew arian; a gwisg luryg. 52

A gwisg iso aur, a gwisg sirig;  
 A galw einioes yn dy galenig  
 A thro yn Herast, a thrig tra vynyeh;  
 Ac yno delych gan' nadolig. 56

Nadolig a phasc gan' delyn gywair,  
 Calan gauav, Sulgwyn;  
 Golehau mae'r gwyliau hyn  
 Yt gytgerdd eto, Gwatcyn! 60

39. *Llan Rewig* = Llanymrewig: near New Town, Montgomeryshire.

42. *Breiddyn*, an isolated steep rock in Montgomeryshire, overhanging the Severn a few miles below Welsh Pool.

*ŵyr Moreiddig*, "a descendant of Moreiddig Warwyn." See *Pedigree*.

44. *Anwig*, Alnwick in Northumberland.

45. *Arenig*, a mountain in Merionethshire.

48. *Cynvig*, a place on the sea coast near Margam, Glamorganshire. The bard, in this poem as well as in several other of his addresses, has introduced the names of a great many places; and that for no other purpose than to shew his anxiety that his heroes should be watchful; and, if possible, to be here and there and every where, in order to discomfit the enemy.

## XII.

## MARWNAD RISIART VYCHAN, ARGLWYDD BLEDDVACH.

THE bard exhorts Ellen Gethin to set her thoughts upon God; and whilst lamenting the death of her son, to call to mind the death of Christ; and what painful agony the Virgin Mary, the mother, must have suffered in witnessing the sight. The lamentation after Richard he describes as being very great and general. He was buried in St. Mary's church, Kington, where, the bard says, his golden locks are now concealed from view beneath a monument of white marble. He then comforts the mother, by telling her what kind offices the blessed Virgin had performed in conducting both her husband and her son into happiness.

PREGETH i Elen Gethin  
 Yn vy myw a wna vy min;  
 Meddylied, am Dduw, Elen;  
 A Mair ei vam arav wen. 4  
 Mair a weles marwolaeth  
 Iesu ei mab dros ei maeth;  
 Elen hevyd a weles  
 Marw ei llew, yn drwm er ei lles. 8  
 Ac o'r llys y dyg i'r llan  
 Duw o'i vaich, Risiart Vychan.  
 Trist ydwyv trwy astudio,  
 Tristâu ei vam trostaw vo. 12  
 Tros dwywlad tristaâ Elen,  
 Tristaâ holl gwr't Herast hen.

XII. An elegy upon Richard Vaughan, second son of Thomas ab Roger, lord of Herast. (See notes to Dosp. I. 6.) The Vaughans of Herast — Tretower — Porthamyl — and Talgarth, were possessed of vast estates in the counties of Monmouth, Brecknock, and Glamorgan. It is said of sir Roger Vaughan, jun. son of the hero of Agincourt, and brother of Thomas, who was slain at Banbury, that he built the 'Plas

Reiol' in Cardiff. Several however of their numerous estates, as Dinas, Tretower, &c. centered at last in Walter Vaughan, esq. of Talgarth, the last of the family in the male line. See note to Dosp. I. 16.

5. *Mair a weles*, &c. probably an allusion to the old Latin hymn, "*Stabat Mater dolorosa*."

10. *o'i vaich*, out of his pain, or groaning.



Aeth Herast, yswaetheroedd !	
Yn drist ; dda ginawdre oedd.	16
Maelienydd ddeuddydd a aeth	
Yn wan, weithian yn waethwaeth ;	
Aeth Cedewain yn eithin,	
Ceri a aeth yn wydd crin.	20
Nag enwed dyn o gan' tir	
Trev Valdwyn, ond rhyveldir.	
Llinwent vu <i>batent</i> i'r byd,	
Llinwent a vydd llai ennyd ;	24
A dryghin y sy'n Llinwent,	
Wedi nai Trystan o Went.	
Mastr Risiart, rymus drysor,	
Mae'n y cudd yn min y côr ;	28
Mae llên gël ar wallt melyn,	
Mae ar y gwallt varmawr gwyn.	
Nid drwg gan olwg Elen	
Hwyl ei mab yn ei helm wen ;	32
A'i weled wrth wely ei dad,	
Yn gorwedd yn un gariad.	
Dau angel i'w dau wely,	
O rent a aeth i'r un tŷ.	36
Duw wellwell, rhwng dwy allawr,	
Dyg ryswr a milwr mawr.	
A hi a aeth at Duw ei hun	
Vry âg hwynt, Vair o Gyntun.	40
Pan aeth Tomas ab Rhosser	
At Duw, a'r saint, drwy y ser ;	
Doeth oedd, vy mendith iddo,	
Vynu ei vab wrth ei gevn vo.	44
Mae'r fridd o wydd Moreiddig	
Wedi bwrw oll hyd y brig ;	
Eto hevyd y tyvant	
O egin coed ugain cant.	48

15. *yswaetheroedd* = yswaether-  
wydd ; ysywaeth, *Alas!*

40. *Vair o Geintun*, St. Mary's

church, Kington, where the father  
and son were interred. The church  
is dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

Er bwrw y gwyr, val brig òn, Y daw yn Herast yn hirion; Mastr Wateyn a vyn ryw vyd, Mastr Rhosser rhiver hevyd.	52
A roddo Duw o wreiddyn, Duw a Mair hevyd a'i mŷn; Os rhoes Tomas a Rhisiart, Un Duw gwyn a'u dyg i'w wart.	56
Mab a thad cymeradwy, Mair, a'i thad, a'i cym berth hwy; A cheidwad yn ei gadair I'r gwr, a'i vab, vo mab Mair.	60

## XIII.

AWDL I DRI MEIB SYR THOMAS AB RHOSSEK.

THIS ode abounds with so many complimentary expressions, that the bard appears somewhat too lavish in his praise of the three brothers; but which however he metes out to the three alike. He wrote in his character as a minstrel; and it is evident from the ode he expected to be rewarded; for he calls them by every title that is high and honourable; and concludes by acknowledging them to have been his benefactors.

MASTR Rhosser, rhiver yr hyn a erys;  
Mae arall Mastr Watcyn;  
Tri yw Mastr Harri hirwyn,  
Tro da a vo i'r tri dyn.

4

O'r dynion hirion y cair hil, a had,  
Hyd ar bedwar canmil;  
Oes, Iesu! i'r *dâm* Sisil;  
I'r tri oes deg trwy *ystil*.

8

*Ystil* ar gannil val Gi o Warwig,  
Eurer y cateri;  
Un Duw, Ieuan a Dewi,  
A ro tair oes ar y tri.

12

Tri meib syr Tomas, trwy ymwan y sydd,  
Vab syr Rhosser Vychan;

XIII. An ode addressed to Roger, Watkin, and Henry; the three sons of sir Thomas Vaughan ab sir Roger Vaughan of Tretower. See *Pedigree*.

Arms, sable three boys' heads couped at the shoulders *ar*. crined *or*, each having a snake wreathed round his neck *az*. These arms were borne by all the Vaughans of Brecknockshire, except Vaughan of Tyle Glas.

They were borne sometimes with a chevron argent, crest on the wreath, &c.

3. *Tri*=y trydydd.

7. *Dâm Sisil*. " Dame Cecily;" who was the grandmother of Roger, Watkin, and Henry. See *Pedigree*.

8. *I'r tri oes deg*, &c. " May the three live long as warriors."

9. *Gi o Warwig* = Sir Guy of Warwick.

Tair neidr at yr un oedran,  
Tri bâr ynt hwy o ryw Bran. 16

O'r Vran y deuan' o dir Dewi, maent  
O dir Mon o Rodri;  
O egin Llyr Merini,  
O Dre'r Tŵr oll y daw'r tri. 20

Trimeib aur trwm, bas; tymher syr Tomas;  
A'r tri yn eu plas, a'r teirw'n eu plaid;  
Tri da, tri dwywawl; tri nav, tri nevawl;  
Y tri sy wrawl, waed Rhosseriaid. 24

Trimeib yn tramwy; aur ein tir ynt hwy;  
Tri a wnaï ovyw tir henaviaid;  
Trimeib trwy ymwan; Rhodri'n rhoi oedran,  
Yn tori allan ynt trwy williaid. 28

Trimeib o'r trymwan, Duw! vu'n y fwrn dân;  
I'w gadu weithian yn mysg doethiaid;  
Tri llyw'n troi llawer; tri llew'n tra llywier;  
A dyv o Rosser a'r Devrasiaid. 32

Trindawd trwy undeb; tri'n un mis try neb  
Tro ar ei wyneb, a'u tri enaid;  
Trimeib trwy emyn; tri edn tner ydyn';  
Y tri aderyn vo traed euraid. 36

Aur a wisgant, nis dyosgant;  
Dur a wisgant ar dair ysgwydd;  
Rhosser chwery; Gwateyn tery;  
Harri ery, er rhoi arwydd. 40

15. *Tair neidr*, an illusion to the family coat of arms.

24. *Rhosseriaid*. Their grandfather was sir Roger Vaughan of Tre-tower; and their great grandfather was sir Roger Vaughan, who was knighted at Agincourt. These were

the *Rhosseriaid*.

31. *tri llew'n* = tri llew ynt.

32. *Devrasiaid*. Roger Vaughan married Jane daughter of sir Walter Devereux. See *Pedigree*.

39. *chwery* = chwerau. *Tery* = a darwa. *Ery* = a aros.

Tri ni thariant â'r tair tariant ;  
 Dreigiau ariant ar dri gorwydd ;  
 Y tri phaladr o Gadwaladr,  
 Yw'r tri gwaladr aur trwy gu-lwydd. 44

Tri rhyw beiriant, lle dysglaeriant,  
 A gyveiriant yn gyvarwydd ;  
 Trimeib moesawl, veirch egroesawl ;  
 I'r tri oesawl yr â'r teirswydd. 48

Y tri broder, lle gosoder,  
 Yr aur dodder ar wyr dedwydd ;  
 Tri phren deiliog hyd Gyveiliog,  
 Yw'r tri cheiliog rhag tra chelwydd. 52

Tri âg adav ; ac nis gwadav,  
 Er naw adav ni ron' nodwydd ;  
 Tri, lle 'mvleidion, troen' ddireidion ;  
 O try eidion y tir adwydd. 56

Tri llew syr Tomas, trillu gwlad Vrychan ;  
 Tri llumman llydan o vlaen pob llu ;  
 Tri marchog caerog yn *concweru* 'r byd,  
 Tri ynt hwy hevyd draw yn tyvu. 60

Tri chawr tair maenawr yn mynu teirsir ;  
 Tri Chai hir am dir yr holl Gwm Du ;  
 Tri thŵr o Dre'r Tŵr ar bob tu i Wysg ;  
 Tri ni âd camrwyg tri nôd Cymmru. 64

Tri phaladr, tri cadr o vaine Hu Gadarn ;  
 Tri o geirw a varn, trwy y Gwr a vu ;  
 Tri ydyw'r rhei 'ni yn rhanu Brycheiniog ;  
 Tri hebog ocsog a vag Iesu. 68

54. *ni ron' nodwydd*, "they will not give way an inch." *Literally*, they will not give way the breadth of a needle.

62. *Cwm Du*, near Crug Hywel.  
 66. *Y Gwr a vu*, meaning Jesus Christ.  
 67. *rhei'ni=rhai'ny=rhai hyny*.

Tri chyw'r un eryr yn trychu cynllwyn;  
 Tri derwllwyn addwyn yn cynnyddu;  
 Tri chastell wellwell o allu a moes;  
 Tri o un eisoes yn teyrnasu.

72

Teyrnas syr Tomas myntumier hòno,  
 Yn rhanau 'r tri broder;  
 Harri ei *glaim* rhoi i glêr,  
 Gan rhoes Watcyn a Rhosser.

76

75. *Harri a glaim, &c.* That is, Henry also ought to follow their example, since Watkin and Roger had been in the habit of rewarding the bard,

## XIV.

AWDL I SYR THOMAS VYCHAN AB SYR RHOSSE  
VYCHAN O DRE Y TWR.

---

THIS ode is hortatory, encouraging sir Thomas to go and quell the insurrections that were rising against king Edward IV. It is an excellent composition of its kind; and highly spirited throughout. Addressing him as a warrior, he commences something in this manner:—"May the impressions left by thy glaives be as numerous as the green leaves in a forest; and may the effects of them continue long and lasting. The prints of thy horses' hoofs are to be seen already throughout the land."

---

OLAU dy leiviau val dail îr ar wydd,  
Arweddiad byth yn hir;

XIV. An ode addressed to sir Thomas Vaughan, son of sir Roger Vaughan of Tretower. It was composed probably in the spring of the year 1483, a little before the death of king Edward IV., who died on the ninth of April that year. William Herbert, the second earl of Pembroke, appointed sir Thomas his attorney general, in the year 1478. In the patent he is styled "*consanguineo nostro*," being in fact his first cousin by half blood; for both of them were grandchildren of Gwladus, daughter of sir David Gam. We are informed that the king, just before he was seized with his last illness, sent his son Edward, prince of Wales, being then in his 13th year, with his governor and uncle the earl of Rivers, into the principality, with a body of troops to appease some disturbances. Before their return, however, they were informed that the king was no more. And the queen requested the earl, her brother, to disband his troops, and hasten his return to London, and to bring with him the young prince, who had been proclaimed king by the title of Edward the Fifth. Rivers accompanied the king to Northampton, to meet Richard duke of Gloucester, who set off from York for the same place, apparently anxious to pay his

homage and congratulations to his royal nephew as soon as possible. But in reality it was with the view to separate the young king from his retinue, which he did; and sent him accompanied with his domestics to London. His uncles, the lord Rivers and lord Richard Grey, sir Thomas Vaughan, the subject of the present ode, who possessed a considerable office in the king's household, and sir Richard Hawse, and others of the king's friends, he caused to be arrested, and conducted to different castles in Yorkshire. Rivers, with Grey and Vaughan, was beheaded at Pomfret about the end of June, 1483.

The following anecdote is from a note in Turner's History of England, vol. iii. p. 465:

The aged sir Thomas Vaughan exclaimed on the scaffold, "I appeal to the high tribunal of God, against the duke of Gloucester, for this wrongful murder, and our real innocence." Ratcliffe, with a sneering insensibility that does no credit to the gentry of the day, remarked, "You have made a goodly appeal. Lay down your head." The knight replied, "I die in the right; take heed you die not in the wrong;" and submitted to the blow.



Olau dy veirch a welir  
Hyd yr aeth oll dwr a thir. 4

Dwr yn wir a thir i'th ol, a nadredd ;  
Y neidr o Gaer Lincol ;  
Ni thrig y rhai dig ar d'ol,  
Na 'th gony'n tu a 'th ganol. 8

Canol llu breiniol, barwniaid drichant ;  
Dyrchaiv groes vendigaidd ;  
Cenyd o radd cawn dy raid,  
Veirch a gwyr varchawg euraidd. 12

Marchawg yn d'wysawg i'n, dos ac ennill ;  
Ac yno wneuthyr *clôs* ;  
Mewn eigion y mac'n agos  
Dydd i ni a diwedd nos. 16

Diwedd nos aros euraid dy goler,  
A gweled y lleuad ;  
Dig yth gawn, diwg yth gad ;  
A dynion holl Loegr danad. 20

Danad ni ddêl brad mac'r braint yn uchel,  
Un achoedd wyt â'r saint ;  
Dy guras yw dy geraint ;  
Derwen vawr, a dur un vaint. 24

Dur glas sir Tomas arvau twymon mawr,  
Mwy no'r holl varchogion ;  
Duw a roes yt yr oes hon  
Dy gofa mal dy gyfion. 28

Cyffion coed irion cadeiriau lawer,  
Cymer di niver o vanerau ;

5. *nadredd*, an allusion to sir Thomas's coat of arms.

6. *o Gaer Lincol*. From this it appears that sir Thomas had a residence at Lincoln.

14. *clôs* = a close : to come to a

conclusion : to a decided victory.

17. *eurad* = euraid. *Coler*, *coler arian* ; *coler euraid* ; badges of knight-hood.

28. *mal dy gyfion*, "like thy ancestors."

Cefych a vynyeh o vanau'r hollvyd,  
Cyvyd, mawr oeddyd, mwy o raddau. 32

Pond creulon llinon a'r llenau drosod,  
A'r llewod val ôd o volodau?  
"Milwr! trychanwr! Trowch ynau'n eu blaen,"  
Siarlamaen yw draen yn mhob dreiniau. 36

Pan ddelon' veilchion i vylchau lle y bych,  
Edrych a'u gwelych yn lle golau;  
Ymogel, angel! rhag angau trwy dŵyll,  
Gwell pwyll noc amhwyll ar ryw gamau. 40

Cur Saison duon, Deau i'th ganlyn,  
Ti yw'r aderyn tor y dorau;  
Gwnewch chwi am Vanbri yn vrau veresgyrn,  
A novia gedyrn yn vagadau. 44

A chrog lwyth Ronwen wrth gangenau,  
Ac ennyn tewyn yn eu tyau;  
Van a bras Domas diammhau y dôn',  
Briwa cwn moelion brig gymalau. 48

Gyrwch i gaerydd, garw gwych! y gorau,  
A myn eu tynu yn nghil pentanau;  
Eillia'n mhob dyfryn, heb hyn, eu penau,  
A rhagwayw baladr rhwyga eu boliau; 52  
Gÿr i'r môr ragor o'r ogau feilsion,  
Gÿr at y Ieithon; gorau wyt tithau;

Gwna wledd a'th nadredd noetha odre Lloegr,  
Gÿr y llygod adre; 56  
Dial dy lid dal dy le,  
A thâl oval â'th leiviau.

35. *Trowch ynau*, &c. "Present arms." A word of command.

36. *yn mhob dreiniau*, in all skirmishes. *Train*, a stroll; a scattering, a skirmishing.

40. *Gwell pwyll*, &c. An indirect

allusion, perhaps, to the battle of Banbury which was lost from want of *preyll*, or discretion.

48. *brig gymalau*, "weak or feeble jointed." *Cymal* val *cymal* brigyn.

51. *heb hyn*=heblaw hyn.

## XV.

AWDL ARALL I SYR THOMAS VYCHAN AB SYR RHOSSE  
VYCHAN O DRE Y TWR.

THE bard having been informed of the death of king Edward IV. seems to have some presentiment that Richard, duke of Gloucester, would succeed him; for he emphatically styles him, (line 13,) *y brenin Risiart*, that is, the king Richard. After stating that sir Thomas Vaughan had served Edward faithfully in eighteen engagements, he takes it for granted that he would now be ready and willing to defend the white rose of Richard. The bard after this indulges himself in a mystic strain, and writes of the bull of York; the tusked boar; and the lion becoming a fox. It is not improbable but that sir Thomas was on his route with the young Edward, the lords Grey and Rivers, towards Northampton, when this poem was written.

EURDORCHAWG varchawg, o Van i Ruswarp,  
Mab Syr Rhosser Vychan;  
Syr Tomas, o'r tu yman  
I dyrau Iorc aed â'i ran. 4

Rhan wrth ei darian a dyv o deirgwlad,  
Arglwydd cantrev Selyv;  
Rhan ddwys yw'r hyn a ddeisyv,  
Rhandir cred i'r hen darw cryv. 8

Cryv oedd ar gadoedd, deunaw gwart gadarn;  
Gyda r brenin Edwart;  
A chwedi ev o awch *dart*,  
I gadw rhos gyda Rhisiart. 12

Y brenin Risiart, barnai'n wresog,  
Yw tarw cryv-vraig tyrau caer Evrog;

XV. Another ode to sir Thomas Vaughan, son of sir Roger Vaughan, of Tretower. This poem dates itself in 1483.

1. *Ruswarp*, a township in the North Riding of Yorkshire.

6. *cantrev Selyv*, a hundred in Brecknockshire.

A vaidd dyn heddyw, vaedd danneddog !  
 Na llu o Gaerwysg, na Lloegr ei ysgog ; 16  
 A oes Wyddel gwyllt, na swyddog, na llu ;  
 Na bo yn crynu, unben coronog !

Ni wn a oes dyn o hyn i Ystog,  
 Na neb yn Nyvnaint na bo'n ovnog ; 20  
 Y llew a aned a aeth yn llwynog  
 I gadw'r deyrnas gwedi'r draenog ;  
 A'r gwr o Dre'r Twr, tiriog benadur ;  
 Ei vaedd, hen Arthur ! a vydd nerthog. 24

Syr Tomas curas y gwyr caerog,  
 Asur yw ei helm, a ser hoeliog ;  
 A mwg o *rubi* ar helm gribog ;  
 Ar ymyl ei ŵn aur melynog ; 28  
 Aur Rhisiart a vydd ar osog rhyvel,  
 Aur yn vur uchel ; arian a varchog.

Aur yw ei dasel val rhyw d'wysog ;  
 Aur yw ei vonwes o'r gaer vanog ; 32  
 Aur yw ei ysgwydd ar wâr wisgog ;  
 Aur yw y gwregys, val rhiw garegog ;  
 A'i ŷrveirch, a'i wyr arvog, yn unwedd ;  
 Aur yw ei gledd, a'i *ddager*, a'i glog. 36

Od â i vrwydr â'i adav wridog,  
 Eve wnai aros yn vanerog ;  
 Od â mewn dadl, Duw ! mae'n odidog ;  
 Od â i'r gynhen, draig ewinog ! 40  
 Od â i'r lladdva, a'i wyr llog, o'r llys,  
 Ev â wna echrys a'i lavn ochrog.

Ev â i Wynedd o Ddyvynog  
 Ovn ei anadl, cawn hav newynog ; 44

19. *Ystog*, *Yr Ystoc* ; now Church-stoke, a parish and church in Montgomeryshire, near Bishop's Castle. Also, the parish of Erbistock near

Wrexham, Denbighshire, was so called by the Welsh.

43. *Dyvynog*, a village and parish in Brecknockshire.

Eve yw'r chwynogl o Vrycheiniog;  
 Ev a chwyn werin Vechain orio;g;  
 Ev yw'r cawr tramawr, a'r trymog vwyceill,  
 I vedi ercill a vo dau eiriog. 48

Ev a â â'i wyr hyd Lan Vwrog,  
 A'i vwäau dur hyd Vodwrog;  
 A'i lu yn ddwyrestr hyd Landdarog,  
 A'i law yn geidwad tros Lan Gadog; 52  
 A'i 'spêr, a'i vaner; a'i viniog vwyall;  
 A'i wiber sy gall, wr asgelllog!

Y gwr gwinau sy gâr i Gynog,  
 A goreu ydyw o Garadog; 56  
 Aed ar uchelwaed â'i dri cheiliog;  
 A'i dair neidr rhiv drwy weundir havog;  
 A'i darian lydan, ddyledog drevtad;  
 A'i dai o'r winwlad hyd ar Wenlog. 60

Mae'r gwr arav, Gymmro goreurog!  
 Mewn gwiail o aur; mae'n golerog;  
 Mae'n ddewr i drin, mae'n ddâr darianog;  
 Mae'n dra gwrawl, mae yn drugarog; 64  
 Mynu at hyny oed Henog, rhagllaw;  
 Mae Teilaw iddaw; mae Telyddog.

Ni bydd Syr Tomas dra dygasog,  
 Onid i'r lleidr, neu i dra llidiog; 68

49. *Llan Vwrog*, a village and parish in Anglesea; and also another in Denbighshire.

50. *Bodwrog*, Bod Twrog, a village and parish in Anglesea.

51. *Llanddarog*, and *Llangadog*, in Caermarthenshire.

55. *Cynog*, one of the sons of Brychan, a saint who suffered martyrdom about the end of the fifth century. He was buried in Brecknockshire. There are several churches dedicated to him.

56. *Caradog*. Sir Thomas Vaughan was a descendant of Caradog Vreich-

vras; and Caradog was nephew to Cynog son of Brychan.

57. *Tri Cheiliog*. The arms of Einion Sais, were argent three cocks, crested and wattled or. Descendants, Brecknockshire men.

60. *Wenlog*. The town of Wenlock in Shropshire.

65. *Henog* = Enoch.

66. *Teilaw*, one of the most celebrated saints of the British church, who lived in the latter part of the fifth and beginning of the sixth centuries. There are several churches dedicated to him.

Y dewr cywir ceidw rhag geuog ;  
A'r anghywir was a ÿr yn nghrog :  
Dewi i'w groesi ; Mair a'r Grog hevyd ;  
Duw a ro iechedd i'r eurdorchog.

## XVI.

## AWDL I WATCYN VYCHAN O DALGARTH.

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WATKIN VAUGHAN is here addressed as one that had often befriended the bard. He is styled the constable of Caernarthen; and a captain in the service of Edward IV. He is mentioned as having already signalized himself in battle. The bard therefore urges him to signalize himself again by fighting the enemies of the king, and the murderers of his father. In this ode the bard betrays his relentless hatred of the English nation.

---

MASTR Wateyn vreichwyn gwlad Vrychan, rhyswr,  
 Mab syr Rhosser Vychan;  
 Mac'ch aur ym ucho o ran,  
 Mac'ch *orais* ym; a'ch arian. 4

Cloch ariant, gwarant gwerin, deugain-'stal;  
 Wyd *gwnstabl* Caervyrddin;  
 Cadben dan Edward vrenin,  
 Cadw'r drev rhag coedwyr y drin. 8

Pr drin wyd ewin a *dart*, a fonwayw,  
 Gyda phenwn Edwart;  
 Y naill wyd, ennill y wart,  
 Ai llew hapus, ai llewpart. 12

Ti yw'r llew dewis yn trulliaw diod,  
 Dy vroder, llawer hwyntau, yw'r llewod;

XVI. An ode to Watkin Vaughan, esq. of Talgarth, in Brecknockshire. He was the son of sir Roger Vaughan of Tretower, knt. (Dosp. I. 8.), and brother of sir Thomas Vaughan, (Dosp. I. 14, 15). His mother was daughter of Thomas ab Philip Vaughan of Talgarth; and he inherited the estate as heir at law. The estate, however, has long since devolved to

the earls of Ashburnham, by the marriage of John Ashburnham, (who was created baron *Ashburnham*, in 1639), with Bridget, daughter and heiress of Walter Vaughan, esq. of Porthammuel House, Brecknockshire. Walter Vaughan was the last of the family in the male line.

4. *orais* = *orais* = *oreis* = *oracis* = *oreins* = *orayns*; aval aur: an *orange*.



Ti yw'r hydd iachav o'r tiredl uchod,  
 Dy wyr aur rhuddaur ydyw'r hyddod ; 16  
 Dy lu'n pregethu, gathod gwlad Gamber ;  
 O gwysia holl Loegr megys y llygod.

Moreiddig Warwyn am roddi gwirod,  
 Vy eryr a'i wyr a vu cryrod ; 20  
 A Hors a Hengist yn gwest deg ystod,  
 Plant y ddau ddrewiant aethan' yn ddrywod  
 Chwithau ar gylchau yw'r gwalchod gwylltion,  
 Saison a'u llinon sy ddylluanod. 24

Nac arbed Vanbri na'i brain na'i phiod,  
 Na Chaerloew wrthi na'i charlau arthod ;  
 Na *Sisedr* emawg, na Sais drwy ammod ;  
 Na Sussex nag Essex ar un gosod ; 28  
 Na pharcha'r Ddena, na ddod ar wirion ;  
 Nid erys Saison yn y drws osod.

Nid hawdd rhivo'r ser sy ddisperod ;  
 Na dala gwynt ; na dilëu îa ac ôd ; 32  
 Na chyrhaeddu'r haul, na chyhwrdd a'r rhôd ;  
 Na dyspyddu'r môr du hyd ei dywod ;  
 Nid haws i ddencant isod dy ddiva,  
 Nid allai dyrva, na'i llu dy orvod. 36

Mastr Watcyn dervyn, mae'r do arvog  
 Mal clawdd y mŵn-wyr, mal cledd miniog ;  
 Mal draen o'i govlaen gyvlog gwlad Vrychan ;  
 Mal taran, a thân tir eithinog. 40

Eu bugail ydwyd hyd Gyveiliog,  
 Eu bwa wedy hyd Bebidiog ;

27. *Sisedr*, the town of Chichester.

29. *y Ddena*, the Forest of Dean.

33. *rhôd*, the blue welkin ; the  
 azure canopy of heaven : the ecliptic.

*Troad y rhôd*, the *alban hevin* and

*alban arthan* : the solstitial change.

37. *mae'r do arvog*, the then race,  
 or generation, of warriors.

42. *Pebidiog*, cantrev Pebidiog in  
 Pembrokeshire.

A Iesu a'th roes yn osog Talgarth,  
I wyr Deheubarth yr wyd hebog. 44

Ac oen wyd i Dduw ac i Enog,  
Ac *Emprwr* a gwr hael trugarog ;  
A gwr wyd o hil Garadog Vreichvras,  
A gyrhaedd gras ac arwydd y grog. 48

Erchais vod dy dad yn eurdorehog,  
Arwydd y byddi dithau eurog ;  
Eurer dy vaner vânog o'r Gogledd,  
Eurer dy vysedd, a'th gledd, a'th glog. 52

Wateyn gorllewyn dod bawb i grog,  
Wateyn o Brydyn na âd un bradog ;  
Gŷr d'ovn ar bawb o'r gwyr diviog draw,  
Gwna vraw o Vanaw i'r Ddyvynog. 56

Dy'mddygiad o *stâd* sy odidog,  
Yr ywch o Wynedd a Brycheiniog ;  
Ac o radd i radd wareddog vis Mai,  
Yr uchav yr âi val yr iwreth rhywiog. 60

Doe yn ysgwier yn golerog,  
A heddyw'n arglwydd yn gyhoeddog ;  
Yvory, trenydd, myn delw Vwrog wyn !  
Wateyn, vy erchwyn, ydd âi 'n varchog. 64

A dalia wythoes, bydd daleithiog ;  
A deulu a gâr dy wâl gaerog,  
A dwyoes arwain vlodeuog wisgoeddd,  
A dwy o oesoedd y bych d'wysog. 68

49. *Erchais vod*, &c. The bard here alludes to Watkin Vaughan's father being a knight ; which, in his opinion, augured that the like honour would also be conferred on the son.

54. *Prydyn*, the north of England.

56. *Manaw*, the Isle of Man.

58. *Yr ywch* = yr ydych.

68. *bych* = byddych.

O du tywysog y deau'r hanwyd,  
O henwir privlwythau ;  
Y mae nerth, val mewn y iau,  
Wyth o Vrychan i'th vreichiau.

72

72. *Wyth o Vrychan*, namely, eight mansions ; of which the palace at Cardiff, built by Watkin Vaughan's grandfather, was one.

## XVII.

## AWDL ARALL I WATCYN VYCHAN O DALGARTH.

IN this ode the bard encourages Watkin Vaughan to stand firm on the side of Edward IV. against the machinations that were carried on against him by Richard Nevill, earl of Warwick, and his party. He styles his hero by the name of *neidr*, or serpent, in allusion to his coat of arms, which were the same with those of his ancestor Moreiddig Warwyn. (See Dosp. I. 13). The serpent being also emblematic of wisdom, the bard no doubt wished to inculcate upon his hero the advantage of discretion, without which valour could not be of much avail.

Y NEIDR vain o'r glain o Golunwy rhed,  
 Ac i'r rhyd ar Gonwy;  
 A vernir hyd ar Vyrnwy,  
 Nôd o'r glain gynt neidr glan Gwy. 4

Glan Gwy yt Wateyn; glŷn gwarth i'th gaswyr,  
 Wrth gesail Deheubarth;  
 Cād i'th alon, burthion barth,  
 Naw telging; enaid Talgarth! 8

Caer Dalgarth, cur barth caer i borthi swrn;  
 A Thâl Sarn i'th ovni;  
 A Thre y Tŵr, a'i thir i ti;  
 A thrwy Von a thre Venni. 12

Caer Venni 'leni, caer lanw osai;  
 Caer Iesu i'th gadw;

XVII. Another ode to Watkin Vaughan, esq. of Talgarth in Brecknockshire.

1. *Columcy*, a rivulet flowing by Golunwy, now Chun, a corporate borough in the west of Shropshire, adjoining Radnorshire.

2. *Conwy*, a river in Caernarvonshire, on the banks of which is Aberconwy; now *Conway*. See History

of Aberconwy, by the Rev. Robert Williams, M. A. Christ Church, Oxford.

3. *y Vyrnwy*, a river in Montgomeryshire.

9. *Caer Talgarth*, perhaps *Dinas*, now in ruins near Talgarth in Brecknockshire.

10. *Tal y Sarn*, a parish in Cardiganshire.

Caer lân i bob cywir lw,  
Cur luoedd iarll Caerloyw. 16

Y neidr loyw groyw dod Grist i'th gadw,  
A'th geidwad, eiliw Crist ;  
Neidr vydd ddiawdrydd ddidrist,  
Nodau'r baedd cryv, neidr bedd Crist. 20

Y neidr yth alwant un aden a draig,  
A wna drwg yn Nghwlen ;  
Neidr a ennill draw onen,  
Enaid rhydd yw y neidr hen. 24

Henaint, rhan saint, i'r ynys hon ;  
Wyth gatgordd i'th gadw Gwateyn ;  
Anwyl vab marchog ennyn tân â dur,  
Oen wyd o B'redur y neidr o Brydyn. 28

Ceidwad ar Elvael wyd rhag gelyn,  
Carw wyd o Snottul i Gaer Ddilyn ;  
Cymer, cwyn vaner ! na vyn ond a saiv ;  
Avael yn y glaiv val Owain Glyn. 32

Cadwed Syr Rhosser, ben aderyn,  
Buallt, Morganwg, Gwaunllwg gwinllyn ;  
Ceidwad ! a'th ddwywlad a'th ddilyn i'r nordd ;  
Cadw'r un utgordd y cadarn Watcyn. 36

16. *Iarll Caerloew*, "Earl of Gloucester." This title was at this time extinct. The bard could not mean Richard, duke of Gloucester ; for he was on good terms with his brother Edward IV. He meant, perhaps, Henry lord Stafford, grandson of Thomas, of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester ; whose treacherous conduct at Banbury he had not forgotten. See note Dosp. I. 6. line 1.

18. *eiliw Crist*, a form, or figure of Christ : the crucifix.

22. *Cwlen*, Cologne, a small town

in Gascony.

30. *Snottul*, the castle of Snodhill, Herefordshire.

*Caer Dulyn*, Dublin.

32. *Owain Glyn*, Owen Glyndwr.

34. *Buallt*, now Builth, in Brecknockshire. In this cantrev Llywelyn, the last prince of Wales was betrayed and murdered in 1282.

*Gwaunllwg*, or Gwentllwg, one of the cantrevs of Morganwg, now in Monmouthshire.

35. *Nordd*, the north of England.

O bu Arthur, wedd buraid, mewn bryn,  
Yn rhoi ei gryvwledd yn nhrev Gaerlyn;  
Amlach yth ddoded, a'th *Iemyn*; v'anrhaith!  
Am wreiddiau gwaith Moreiddig Wyn. 40

Mab wyd i Rosser, aer pêr heb hyn;  
Ac ŵyr i Rosser lle llanwer llyn;  
A gorwyr Rhosser, gwâr ynn yth gair,  
A gosog y fair âg ysig fÿn. 44

Nac ovna vwa, vab gwrda gwyn,  
Na ſacth waed atgordd, na saith, yd Watcyn;  
Na devod Francod, na dyvyn, na thrais;  
Na Dug o'r Galais, na dager gelyn. 48

D'elyn o daw ar dalar,  
A dwylaw plad y delir;  
Dwg aur goler, deg wr gwaladar;  
Wrda dedwydd, air dy deudir. 52

Troi'n y myd oedd trin y medr,  
A'th droi'n adwyth, a'th deir-neidr;  
Gynau sidan, gwin a *sedr*,  
Gwiwran Edwart, gorau neidr! 56

38. *Caerlyn*=Caerlion; Caer Llion ar Wysg: a town in Monmouthshire, standing on the river Usk. This was the site of Isca Silurum, the principal Roman fortress in the country of the Silures. It was here that king Arthur had his residence; and there are still the vestiges of an amphitheatre on the banks of the Usk, which is called by the inhabitants, King Arthur's Round Table; and it is said that this prince instituted here the knights of the round table.

39. *vy anrhaith*. Here a term of endearment: my good sir; or, my friend.

40. *Moreiddig Wyn*, an abbreviation of Moreiddig Warwyn.

48. *Na Dug o'r Galais*, &c. George duke of Clarence, a brother of Edward IV. who joined the earl of Warwick against the king. (See note, Dosp. I. 6. line 8.) The earl, in order

to secure his services, gave him his eldest daughter in marriage, which was solemnized at Calais, in 1469, where probably he remained some-time to deliberate with his father-in-law, who was then captain of Calais, on the best and safest means to dethrone the king. In this they succeeded; and Edward IV. had to escape for his life, which he did in a Dutch vessel which he found at Lynn on the point of sailing. But Edward's bravery and determined resolution found means of returning, which ended in his being reestablished on his throne. Clarence, on Edward's relanding, having been reconciled to his brother, joined him with 4,000 followers; but Warwick, who could not be induced to abandon the house of Lancaster, fell at the battle of Barnet. This happened in the year 1471. See Turner's History of England, vol. iii. pp. 334—357.



## XVIII.

## SYR WILIAM HERBART.

THE bard rushing in *medias res* asks how it was that the dart of William was not broken in the assault upon Durham? and in the very next line he exclaims, May the spear of William break down the strong wall of the city and the five towers thereof! Before he proceeds any farther, he acquaints us of Herbert being a descendant of Gwilym ab Jenkin; and congratulates all Wales on having such a hero. He styles him the lover of truth—the prosperity of Wales—a member of parliament—the son of the daughter of Sir David Gam. He says of him that he was given to charity; and that he was the protector of the weak, and the terror of the enemy. He then alludes to his deeds of valour in the north; and also speaks of his triumphing over the enemy from Dunster Castle to Aber Dâr. He compares him to Julius Caesar—to Gwalchmai ab Gwyar; and says that, when he was mounted on his restless charger, his countenance was all fire, and his eyes were sparkling. His entire accoutrement also became glowing; and his spear like unto the lightning, or a brilliant flame. Here the bard takes a review of his military adherents—proves the right of Edward to the throne—mentions their complete victory over the rebels in the north; and ends in full praise of Herbert.

DART arglwydd Herbart baham na thores  
Wrth verthyrû Duram?

XVIII. An ode addressed to sir William Herbert, lord of Rhaglan, in Monmouthshire. He was the first Cambro-Briton, since the subjugation of Wales by Edward I. that had the title of earl. He was a Welshman by birth, language, and descent. On the first of May, 1461, he obtained from king Edward IV. a grant of the offices of chief justice and chamberlain of South Wales. On the fourth of November, in the same year, he was advanced to the dignity of a baron; and on the third of February, 1462, he obtained a grant of the castle, town, and lordship of Pembroke. In 1463, he was made justice in the county of Meirioneth, in North Wales; and in 1467 he was consti-

tuted chief justice of North Wales for life. And upon the 27th of May, 1463, he was advanced to the title of earl of Pembroke. Shortly after which he was chosen one of the knight's companions of the most noble order of the garter.

His arms, per pale azure and gules, three lions rampant argent. Crest, a wivern with wings endorsed vert, in his mouth a sinister hand couped at the wrist gules.

It has already been mentioned that Herbert was beheaded at Banbury after the battle at Danesmore; but there are two other facts connected with the battle, the mention of which should not be omitted: namely, that Herbert, after he was taken, added



Tori Caer, a'i phump tŵr cam,  
Draw a wnel derwen Wiliam. 4

Syr Wiliam Herbart *gwerſer* alwyn, hardd ;  
Hil Gwilym ab Siancyn ;  
Syr P'redur dros wyr Prydyn,  
Syr Cai Hir mewn sirig gwyn. 8

Gwyn ei byd Gwyndud a'i gwyr  
Gael tadawg i gloi Tewdwr ;  
Gael Cymmro a garo'r gwir,  
Gael fynu i Gymmru'n gar, 12

Pond da vu i Gymmru, Mon, Gwent, beddeirgwlad ;  
Bod arglwydd o *Barlyment* ?  
Bod ei arlwy yn nwy-Went ?  
Bod ei wraidd drwy'r byd a'i rent ? 16

Rhentawl bedyddiawl yw'r byd iddo'n llwyr,  
Yn llaw'r arglwydd Gymmro ;  
Y brisg, yn mhob pant a bro,  
Hyd Ruvain a dyr evo. 20

Evo yw'n arglwydd ; a'i vam evo oedd  
Yn verch Syr Davydd Gam ;

a codicil only to his will. He did not, as some assert, make a fresh will. And the other circumstance to be noticed is, that the battle took place on the Monday ; and that Herbert and his fellow-captives were executed on the Wednesday. This appears from a poem by Gutto Glyn ; who says,

*Dyfe Llun y bu waed a lladd* :—on the Monday there was blood and slaughter.

*Marchog a las ddyn Merchur* :—on the Wednesday the earl was executed.

2. *Duram*. In November, 1463, sir William attended the king on an expedition to the north for the reducing of those castles of which some

of the Lancastrian party had then possessed themselves. In the following month the king was stationed at Durham.

5. *Cwerſer aheyn*, "a grey charger." *Aheyn*, [al-gwyn,] very white.

6. *Gwilym ab Siancyn*, a great-grandfather to sir William. He lived at *Wern Ddu* in Monmouthshire.

9. *Gwyndud*, North Wales.

14. *arglwydd o Barlyment*. Sir William was first summoned to attend parliament upon the 29th of April, 1462, as lord Herbert de Gower.

21. *a'i vam evo oedd*, &c. "His mother was the daughter of sir David Gam." See *Pedigree*.

Yr ail, ei dad syr Wiliam,  
A wnaï iachâu iawn a cham. 24

Ni âd arnam gam, neu ryw gas, ar ol ;  
Syr Wiliam ab Tomas ;  
Nac aur, darnau'r deyrnas ;  
Ni bu lai aur yn ei blas. 28

Rhai a gyrch i'w blas val at Lasar,  
Rhai a eirch ei nawdd ni bo rhywar,  
Rhai i'r tân a foan' o phâr ddydd ymwan ;  
Rhai i goed a redan' rhag ei drydar. 32

Gwnaeth yn Iorc waedtir o weundir âr,  
Gwnaeth ar ei elyn gnith rhyw alar ;  
Gwyn eu byd i gyd a gâr y Cymmro,  
Gwae nhwy lle rhoddo evo ei vâr. 36

Megis plwyv Arthur a Gwenhwyvar  
Y troes o Went, y tir saintwar ;  
Tri hyd traian byd yn bedwar cyncylch  
A droes o'i gylch yn dyrau 'sgwar. 40

Yn goetgae y gwnaeth yr holl ddaear  
O wengaer Dwnster hyd Aber Dâr ;

27. *darnau'r deyrnas*, the coin of the realm.

29. *val at Lasar*, "some seek his mansion, like persons going to a lazaretto, to obtain his charity."

32. *rhag ei drydar*. The name of Herbert carried dread with it through the ranks of the Lancastrian forces in Wales.

40. *yn dyrau 'sgwar*. An allusion to sir William having improved and enlarged Rhaglan castle, which he possessed through the marriage of his father sir Wm. ab Thomas with his first wife, Elizabeth Berkley. Gwladus, the earl's mother, was sir Thomas's second wife.

42. *O wengaer Dwnster*, "Dunster castle;" now the town of Dun-

ster in Somersetshire. The lordship of Dunster and its castle were once the property of sir James Luttrell, who for siding with the Lancastrians, was attainted; and his whole estate was bestowed by Edward IV. upon Herbert. The earl in his life time made a transfer of the lordship and castle of Dunster to his eldest son William, upon his marriage with Mary Woodville, sister to the queen of Edward IV.; and he denominates him in his last will, "my son of Dunster."

*Aber Dâr*, a village in Glamorgan-shire. Ieuan Ddu ab Davydd ab Owain, an eminent poet, was a native of Aber Dâr.

Adgae y moroedd bu Edgar arnam,  
Adam, Davydd Gam oedd ei gymmhar. 44

Ev a droes Alban yn dir branar,  
Ev a dry'r Cymmry at wr a'u câr ;  
A vu'n wyllt a wnaeth ev yn wâr â'i ddart,  
Ev a wna Herbart ovn â'i hirbar. 48

Ev a ddaeth megys Siwlius Sisar  
Heibiau â gwayw Gwalchmai ab Gwyar ;  
A'i ysgwyd a wnaeth oer wasgar ar Drent,  
A'i varch byw o Went, a'i vraich a'i bâr. 52

A'i wyneb yn dân ar varch anwar,  
A'i olwg mawrwych val dig marwar ;  
A'i fon, a'i ddwyvron, a'i ddâr, a'i saled,  
A'i wayw yn lluched, neu yn dân llachar. 56

A'i ystal yn cadw maes a thalar,  
A'i *stondart* vreithwen wrth dalcen dêr ;  
A'i wyr a'i weywyr i ar Gil Bebyll,  
A'i welch a'i esgyll ar Lech Ysgar. 60

I'r cwnpas ydd â, yr aeth, Baldasar  
A'i lu o *aliwn* cyn gŵyl Ilar ;  
I gyrcu y groes o garchar a gwart,  
Ev a â Edwart, ev â'i adar. 64

Ei adar a'i wyr o vewn y drin  
A oresgynodd â'i ros gwynion ;  
A'i lew yn aros wrth bob rhosyn,  
A'i wyr a'i vilwyr a oedd viliwn. 68

43. *Edgar*, a Saxon king, who was consecrated with great pomp at Bath in the year 973.

44. *Adam*, an ancestor of Herbert. *Dugdale's Baronage*.

50. *Gwalchmai ab Gwyar*, one of king Arthur's generals.

51. *Trent*, the river Trent.

52. *aig marwear*, "the glowing of

embers."

55. *saled*, salet, or salade ; a skull-cap. The simplest, or original helmet, without a visor over the face.

59. *Cil Bebyll*, or *Cil y Bebyll*, a parish near Neath in Glamorgan-shire.

66. *a'i ros gwynion*, the white rose of York.

A'i Varwniaid at Edwart vrenin,  
 A'i ieirll a'i ddugiaid, eraill ddigon ;  
 Deuddeg archesgob yn un dyddyn,  
 Deg cant bwa aur, deucant Barwn. 72

Ac o Wladus Ddu un o egin,  
 Yw llewpart Rhisiart trwy'r ddaiar hon ;  
 Un o vlaen Brytaen, a'i choed a'i bryn,  
 Un o vueilgyrn yr hen Vaelgwn. 76

O Rosser Mortimer, rhoes dalm o win,  
 O wirvaeth Edwart Caer yn Arvon ;  
 O Syr Lionel ; o Lywelyn,  
 Y daw o rwndwal Iorwerth Drwyndwn. 80

Edwart a Herbart fordd y mae hin,  
 A geidw'r gwyr oll gyda'r goron ;  
 Ac yn lle Edwart, genau llwydwyn,  
 Y mae i Herbart roddi *pardwn*. 84

Ac anadl Herbart, myn delw Gynin !  
 Yr oedd y'nghevn y nordd anghyviawn ;  
 A baner â llew'n tori newyn,  
 A gwaith a baner ac wyth benwn. 88

74. *llewpart Rhisiart*, "the leopard of Richard ;" namely, Richard duke of Gloucester.

76. *yr hen Vaelgwn*, Maelgwn, son of Owain Gwynedd.

77. *O Rosser Mortimer*, "Roger Mortimer," earl of March, born at Usk, in 1384. From line 77—80, the bard traces the pedigree of Edward IV. proving his right to the throne.

78. *Edwart*, Edward, the first prince of Wales born in Caernarvon castle.

79. *Syr Lionel*, Lionel duke of Clarence, the third son of Edward III.

*o Lywelyn*, Llywelyn ab Iorwerth Drwyndwn, who succeeded his uncle David ab Owen Gwynedd, as prince of Wales ; and held its sovereignty, with great ability, against both English and Normans, for 46 years ; and

died in 1240. He was married twice ; and his second wife was Joan, sister to king Henry III.

84. *Y mae i Herbard*, &c. An allusion to Herbert's obtaining from Edward IV. the pardon of David ab Einion, who had bravely defended Harlech castle ; for when Herbert summoned the garrison to surrender, he made this memorable reply ; " I have kept a castle in France so long that all the old women in Wales talked about me ; and I will keep this castle of Harlech so long that all the old women in France shall talk of me." He was however at last compelled to surrender.

85. *Cynin*, son of Brychan, a saint who lived in the middle of the fifth century. There is a church in Caermarthenshire dedicated to him.

A lladdva ar gaith val lladd eithin,  
 A lluyddwyr Gwent yn llywyddion ;  
 A llew ieuanc Gwilym ab Siancyn  
 Yn llywiaw gwyr Iore ar y naill grwn. 92

A chynneddv Wiliam mewn *ystamin*,  
 Achub y meusydd i ar wychion ;  
 A chynnal gavael Oswy aelwyn,  
 A chwe' naw gwaedtir a chan' gitwn. 95

A chogau allan gyda chegin,  
 A chwegwyr a mil yn dorchogion ;  
 A chwe mil arwawg yn eu dilyn,  
 A chaneuau clêr a chan' clariwn. 100

Edwart gonewerwr, yn lle Edwin ,  
 Yw Siwlius Sisar dros lu Saison ;  
 Herbart sy wrawl, ar varch alwyn,  
 Yn mesur Cymrru â'i *gommisiwn*. 104

Siarhmaen yw Edwart, myn bedd Martin !  
 Rholant yw Herbart y rhai haelion ;  
 Arthur yw Edwart val y perthyn,  
 Gwalchmai yw Herbart, a'r dart yn dwn. 108

Arddwrn yw Herbart i Gaervyrddin,  
 Llaw yw a bwyall i Gaerllion ;  
 Bwa yw a roed drwy holl Brydyn,  
 A sythwayw o Went drwy South Hantwn. 112

89. *caith*, (pl. of *cath*) captives ; prisoners of war.

93. *ystamin*. This word, judging from the context, is a corruption of *storming*. *Meu ystamin*, in an open attack.

95. *Oswy*, a Saxon king, son and successor of Oswald. He avenged his father's death, and subdued the Mercians.

101. *Edwein*, saint, king and mar-

tyr. His festival is kept on 4th Oct.

104. *Yn mesur Cymrru*, &c. Sir William was appointed governor of Wales by Edward IV.

105. *myn bedd Martin!* "By St. Martin's grave!"

106. *Rholant*, a term borrowed from the romance of Rolando Furioso.

112. *South Hantwn*, the town of Southampton.

Llawes yw am vraich y Gorllewin,  
 Llew yw a grifwnt i Gaerllion;  
 Llugorn yw a glaiv Lloegr wen, a'i glyw;  
 Lluryg yw i Went, a'i lloer a'i gwn. 116

Unpost ac unpen, val Custenin,  
 Yw ev ar chweugant o varchogion;  
 Un cae o winwydd am naw kannyn,  
 Un *gorsiet* o aur am naw *garsiw*n. 120

Un cledd, un bwled i'r cyfredin,  
 Un *claim* i'r gyvraith o'r heniaith hon;  
 Unclust holl Gymmru'n y Gwindy gwyn,  
 Unclo'r *king* Edwart yw'r Herbart hwn. 124

117. *Custenin*, Constantine the Great. the cuirass.

120. *corsiet*, a gorget; a piece of armour worn round the neck between the selade, or skull-cap, and

*garsiw*n, a garison.

123. *Gwindy gwyn*, the residence of sir William, in the Strand, London.



## XIX.

## I SYR RHISIART HERBART.

NOTHING seems to please our bard more than to enjoy a good entertainment; and it may be said of him as Horace says of Cato:

“Narratur et priscei Catonis  
Sæpe mero caluisse virtus.”

According to his account, sir Richard kept an excellent house. In it there was no lack of any thing that a man could wish for. And with respect to sir Richard himself, he is described as being the soul of the Welsh nation, that as a warrior no one could surpass him. The bard then gives a description of sir Richard's coat of arms; and as one enamoured with the hospitality he had received, he must needs introduce us into sir Richard's mansion; and tell us what sort of an establishment he kept. After doing this, he tells us of sir Richard's loyalty to king Edward; whom he compares, as to stature, to Saul king of Israel. And he assures us that Edward would govern the kingdom well; and that Ireland, and the north of England, had acknowledged his authority. He then expresses a wish that not only Scotland, but also Italy, and even the Turkish empire, might speedily be subject to him. The bard having thus imbibed the spirit of a crusader ends his poem accordingly.

GWR yw syr Risiart, ac a ry ei win;  
Enaid cenedl Gymmry!

XIX. An ode addressed to sir Richard Herbert, *knt.* This poem must have been written some time between the years 1461 and 1469.

Sir Richard was the second son of sir William ab Thomas of Rhaglan, by Gwladus, daughter of sir David Gam. He was an Anakim in stature, and accordingly he was known (as has been already observed in a note, *Dosp. I. 1.*) among the Welsh by the name of Syr Risiart Harbart *hir*, or the tall. He married Margaret daughter of Thomas Gruffydd ab Nicholas, who was slain at the battle of Pennal. She was sister of sir Rice ab Thomas, knight of the garter. Sir Richard resided chiefly at Coalbrook, near Abergavenny, in Monmouthshire. He was a powerful

assistant to his brother, the earl of Pembroke, in subduing the Lancastrian factions in North Wales, and in other parts of the kingdom. In 1468, the earl of Pembroke, *then* lord Herbert de Gower; sir Richard Herbert, sir Roger Vaughan, John Milewater, esq., John Herbert, and Thomas Morgan, were, by letters patent, (dated July 3,) constituted by the king to be his justices, to reduce North Wales to subjection—to pardon such as returned to their allegiance—and to punish the refractory. Harlech castle was the stronghold of the Lancastrians, at this time, in North Wales; and the last place in the kingdom that held out for the house of Lancaster. It was difficult of access; for the Yorkists, in order



Ni aned cynt, na chwedy,  
Iarll, na Dug, mor llawn ei dŷ. 4

Nid llai yn ei dai, deuent pan vynon',  
Nog yn nhai Armon, nog yn *Nherment* ;  
Nid llai no deng-môr ei dent, na'i drysor ;  
Nid llai no Winsor ei 'stôr, na'i 'stent. 8

Nid gwell un ei lun o Linwent i 'Spaen ;  
Ni bu yn Almaen neb un *el'ment* ;  
Ni chaem ei gyvryw yn *mhaement* y Pab ;  
Ni bu yr eilmab yn ei *Barl'ment*. 12

Ni bu vwy mordwy yn mawrdent y môr ;  
Ni bu vwy Sain Sior ; nac Ivor Gwent ;  
Nid da ar *gwrser* ond dwy-Went unben ;  
Nid prafach onen cadben gwyr Cent. 16

Nid dewrach kannwr, anturient Frytaen ;  
Nid llymach blaen draen hyd avon Drent ;

to attack it, in which they succeeded, had to pass over the rugged defiles of Drws Arduwy, a task arduous to be accomplished ; and which, as a celebrated antiquarian observes, could be inferior only to the passage of Annibal over the Alps. The siege of Harlech castle was conducted under the direction of sir Richard Herbert, whilst his brother William (afterwards earl of Pembroke) was engaged in subduing the Lancastrians among the Snowdonian recesses, and in the isle of Anglesea. The earl, it is said, committed great ravages on this occasion ; and, among other acts of cruelty, he caused every mansion which belonged to a Lancastrian to be burnt to the ground.

Now, although it would be without the province of a note to enter more largely into the history of the two brothers ; yet the following anecdote, preserved in the family of lord Herbert of Chirbury, of a conversation which took place between them just before the battle of Banbury,

may not be irrelevant here. The earl, in reviewing his army, came up to his brother, and found him, with a grave countenance, leaning upon his poleaxe. And he said to him, "What makes thee assume that position, and that forlorn visage ? Art thou fatigued ? or art thou afraid ?" Sir Richard replied, "I am not afraid, brother ; and that you will see anon ; but I cannot help thinking of the old woman in Anglesey, who, in counting her woollen beads, cursed you for every bead she counted, because you refused to spare the life of one of her seven sons condemned to the gibbet for being Lancastrians."

There is an elegy on sir Richard by Ieuan Deulwyn.

6. *Armon*, St. Garmon, or St. Germain, one of the most distinguished of the British saints, to whom three churches in Denbighshire and one in Caernarvonshire have been dedicated.

*yn Nherment*, at a tournament.

Nid av o'i neuadd, nac o'i dent sidan ;  
Yni elwyv dan van o'r vonwent. 20

Monwent a chysegr i bob maner,  
Yw tai syr Risiart lle i'n trwsier ;  
Ev a wŷr proviad val ei bader ;  
Proviadau ceinciau Wiliam *Concwer*. 24

Yn nhâl gwe syndal Alexander  
Ei un llew a vu'n ynnill llawer ;  
Mae i syr Risiart, yn dri chwarter,  
Lewod i orvod yn un arver ; 28

Mae trillew arian yn ei vaner,  
Tri *rampawnt* ar lawnt wrth reol R ;  
Dyrneidiau saethau, rivedi'r ser,  
Yw ei *vaedys* ev wedi saver. 32

Arwyddion sythion ynt, pan saether,  
Y dely evo ystod Oliver ;  
Privlys syr Risiart sy un *siarter*  
A phrivlys Arthur am win pur pêr ; 36

Llys urddawl, nevawl, lle hael niver ;  
Lle galawnt gwyr llys, icirll y gweler ;  
Lle serchawg swyddawg pan orsedder ;  
Lle da moes eisoes porthawr, *usier* ; 40

20. *Yni elwyv* = hyd oni elwyv : until I go.

21. *maner* = maenawr ; a manor : a noble sort of fee anciently granted to barons, by whom it was let out to tenants for certain services to be performed, and part reserved for the use of the lord's family, with jurisdiction over his tenants for their farms. The whole was anciently called a *lordship*, or barony, whence the term *court baron*.

23. *Ev a wŷr proviad*, &c. that is, he knows how to try, and marshal, his troops.

29. *Mae trillew*, &c. Three lions rampant, &c. (see note to Dosp. I.

18.) being the arms of the Herberts.

30. *wrth reol* R or ER. An allusion to the colour of the field on the shield, which was *gules*, or red, and formerly distinguished by the letter R, now by perpendicular hatched lines.

31. *Dyrneidiau saethau* : an allusion to the bundles of arrows surmounting the crest, which are found in some of the Herbert arms.

32. *ei vaedys*, " his badges of honour."

34. *Oliver*, the Oliver of Romance.

40. *usier* = an usher : an officer who waits on a lady, or person of quality.

Lle llawen pob rhai pob dyw Gwener ;  
 Lle cav tros auav waith tri *sewer* ;  
 Lle na chwsg a ddêl parth ar *seler* ;  
 Lle cair gwin Gasgwin yni gysger. 44

Cysgu'r oedd Gymmru, medd sawl a'i gwyl,  
 Yn hir heb vlaenor vai rhagorawl ;  
 Syr Risiart Herbert yw'r iawn a'r tâl ;  
 Dinevwr Dewdwr iddo y dêl. 48

Rheoli llawer ar iawn gweryl,  
 Y mae i Edwart yn ammodawl ;  
 Gwr yw i Edwart sy gân Idwal ;  
 Herbert ac Edwart, Mair i'w gadael ! 52

Brenin, a'i werin yn ei cryl,  
 Yw'r brenin Edwart, Gymmro breiniawl ;  
 EDWART BEDWERYDD saethydd ; *king* Saul ;  
 A reola ynys ; hil syr Liwnel ! 56

Ac iddo y mae tir y Gwyddyl,  
 A thir holl Brydyn yn llythyrawl ;  
 E dry i Edwart wlad yr Idal,  
 A'r Alban i wart Edwart a êl. 60

Gwr yw'n chware'r dis am wlad Sisyl,  
 Gwr a vyn y groesdeg Ruveiniawl ;  
 Gwr a ddaw, vedd Grist ! â'r gwir ddial,  
 Gwr a ynnill pen Sawden a'i sel. 64

Insel i Edwart yn *nghwnsloedd*,  
 Draw yw syr Risiart dros yr oesoedd ;

42. *sewer*=hulydd bwrdd : an officer who comes in before the meat to the table of a king, or a nobleman, and places it.

44. *gwin Gasgwin*=Gasgony wine.

48. *Dinevwr Dewdwr*, &c. "May the *generalship* come to the lot of the Tewdwr of Dinevawr." *Tewdwr*, a chieftain ; *here* a term of compliment.

Sir Richard's wife was of the Dinevawr family.

56. *Syr Lionel*: Lionel duke of Clarence, third son of Edward III. On this descent, Richard duke of Gloucester, and his son Edward IV., laid their claim to the throne.

64. *Sawden*=the sultan.

A'i vilwr, yn mlaen rhyvelocdd anghred,  
A dry yn egored yr hen gaeroedd. 68

Dan ei glo Edwart dwyn y gwladoedd  
A wna, hyd Ruvain a'r hen drevoedd;  
Edwart a geidw cymmydoedd Africa;  
Europa; Asia; a'r ynysoedd. 72

Ev â i Edwart yr holl vydoedd,  
Llywied syr Risiart y galluoedd;  
Navarre, Aragon, dan nevoedd Yspañ;  
E gryn yr Almaen rhag blaen eu bloedd. 76

Y *vâl o Iosphat*, ev a'i vilocdd,  
A dry i Edwart yn ystrydoedd;  
Y tarw cyn euraid o'r tiroedd, yn v'oes,  
A ynnill y groes; o'n Lloegr a oedd. 80

Dygen' o Gymmru ill dau luoedd,  
Doen' i vron Babilon a'r holl bobloedd;  
Deuen' i Vethle'm ill deuoedd, i'r gaer;  
I drwsiaw ei maer dros y moroedd. 84

Syr Risiart Herbart val Rolant oedd,  
Syr Risiart â'i ddart, mab arglwydd oedd;  
Syr Risiart o'i wart oedd yn lladd Saison,  
Salmon yn troi 'mron y trimor oedd. 88

77. *Y vâr o Iosphat*=the valley of  
Jehoshaphat.

88. *Salmon yn troi*, &c. "A Solo-

mon he was that could perform such  
wonderful feats, as to be able almost  
to stem the tides of the three seas."

## XX.

I RISIART HERBART, CEIDWAD CASTELL  
ABERYSTWYTH.

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THE bard addresses Herbert as a captain who ranked high, and as one who possessed a generous disposition. He attributes to him the good qualities of his noble-minded ancestor—Griffith ab Nicholas. After this he alludes to the distracted state of the country, and urges the necessity of Herbert's rendering assistance in allaying the disturbances, as his father sir Richard was wont to do.

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CADBEN a adwaen ydwyt,  
Croes naid ar gadbeniaid wyt.  
Y meist'r Risiart Herbart hir,  
Hil Edwin; hil Elidir; 4  
Is Ystwyth megys Ustus  
Wyd; ac un llew dengain llys.  
Uch Ystwyth, caer a Chastell;  
A swyddau uwch y sydd well. 8  
A roist yn Aberystwyth,  
Eto y bydd yt ei bwyth;  
A roddi i Gymmry, ar gylch,  
Llu'r Deau yn llwyr a'i diylch: 12  
A vyny ch yn y vaenawr  
A gai o'r meirch, a'r gair mawr.

XX. Addressed to Richard Herbert, esq. of Aberystwyth castle, in the reign of Henry VII. He was the second son of sir Richard Herbert, the subject of poem, Dosp. I. 19. The Richard Herbert here mentioned was knighted by Henry VIII. about the year 1510, and received a grant of Montgomery castle and its dependencies.

2 *Croes naid*, cross of refuge. See

*Naid* in Dr. W. O. Pughe's Dict. According to the above definition of the word, the meaning of the sentence may be that Herbert was looked up to by his subalterns as their *safeguard*. Dr. Davies in his Dict. says, that "*croes naid* was a part of our Saviour's cross which was carried before the prince of Wales."

14. *gair mawr*, a great name: applause.

Rhól Gruffydd ab Nicolas	
I'ch a roed ; a'i awch a'i ras ;	16
A'i ddwrn byw i ddyrnu byd,	
Ac â darn o'i gadernyd.	
Rhoi a wnai, yn nhair neuadd,	
I bob gwr ; aur i bob gradd.	20
Rhoi barn velly bu arnav	
Ar y vân glêr a vu'n glav.	
A'th dad oedd varehog cadarn	
A'm eurai byth am roi barn ;	24
A chwithau, rhwng banau'r byd,	
A'm rhiv i'm heuraw hevyd.	
O'th vwnai, val treth Vanaw,	
Mae hôb oll yn mhob llaw ;	28
O'th lienaur, val treth ynys,	
Eto mae punt yn mhob bys.	
O'th wisgoedd, er na thesgais,	
Mae'm ynau pân ; mae'm naw pais.	32
Meistr Risiart moes dy reswm ;	
Mae bywyd trist ; mae byd trwm ;	
Meibion a gweision oedd gaeth,	
Myned weithion maent waethwaeth.	36
Syr Risiart Herbart, eich tad,	
A wnai estwng anwastad ;	
Dy gledd aed i gladdu wyth,	
Dan estwng gwlad anystwyth.	40
Dan dy dad y gwelad gynt,	
(A thrwydded d'ewythr oeddynt)	
Dwy Wynedd wlad, yn ddwy lys,	
Deau buarth ; dwy Bowys.	44
Danat tithau doent weithian,	
A daiar Went vo dy ran.	
Gruffydd, val gware wfin,	
Nic'las heb encil â'i sin ;	48

15. *Rhól Gruffydd ab Nicolas*, that is, of the line of Griffith ab Nicholas. His father sir Richard Herbert married Margaret, daughter of Thomas, son of Griffith ab Nicholas.

32. *Mae'm ynau pân*, "I have gowns made of fur."

42. *d'ewythr*, "thy uncle," namely, William Herbert, earl of Pembroke.

47. *wfin* = offspring.



Bran Grufydd oedd gigvran gadr, Brain Urien un bryn aradr ; Vo wna'r vran a'r vaner vraith, I vrig Havren vwrw cyvraith.	52
Bran vyw wyt ger bron y vaine ; Barwn nawosgl brain ieuaine ; <i>Growndwal</i> , a grisial holl gred, Ryw sythvaen Harri seithved.	56
Mae't lew dewr iawn ; mae't law drom ; Meistr Risiart moes hi drosom. Wyth ynys a'th ddewiniawdd, Wyr Domas Nic'las ! dy nawdd.	60
Braich a dart Herbart wyt ti, Bâr dwy-Went, a bro Dywi ; Un wyneb y wen ynys, Einioes hir yt ; nai Syr Rhys !	64

49. *Bran Grufydd oedd gigvran*, the Dinevwr family from Urien  
&c. *Cigvran*=raven ; the crest of Rheged.



## XXI.

## AWDL I WILIAM VYCHAN, CWNSTABL ABERYSTWYTH.

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THIS ode is in praise of William Vaughan, constable of Aberystwyth castle; and the bard says that, whilst defended by Vaughan, it would prove impregnable; on which account he is desirous that eulogistic strains in praise of Vaughan should pour in from all quarters. He speaks of Vaughan as a warrior, as a skilful harpist, and an admirer of poetry. After this, he again celebrates Vaughan as an able warrior.

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CAER YSTWYTH dylwyth a saiv dân beunydd,  
 Baner Wiliam Vychan;  
 Cadben yn cau ar draian  
 Cymru yw oll rhag cam ran. 4

Caneuau holl Deau vlodeuyn â êl,  
 I Wiliam ab Gwateyn;  
 Rhwng y Nordd a Brodorddyn,  
 Rhwng Cent a Gwent, a'r Tŵr Gwyn. 8

Duw gwyn a'i gad ynn i gyd, am ei ddäed,  
 I ddeuoed Davydd Gam;  
 Deuoed vyth ei dad, a'i vam,  
 A dalo Duw i Wiliam. 12

Wiliam gân delyn, evo cerdd a vyn,  
 Am hyn ei ddilyn a veddyliais;  
 Av yn ngwydd cannyn iddo a wyddyn'  
 Cael brigyn gwin gwyn am a genais. 16

XXI. An ode addressed to William Vaughan, constable of Aberystwyth castle, and mayor of the town in the reign of Edward IV. He was the son of Watkin Vaughan, esq. of Bredwardine.

1. *Caer Ystwyth*. The castles of Aberystwyth and Cilgerran were

built by Gilbert Strongbow earl of Strygill, in the reign of Henry I. See an account of both castles in Meyrick's Hist. of Cardiganshire.

13. *gân* = a gân = a chwarena.

16. *brigyn gwin gwyn*, "first rate white wine."

Y gwr mewn tŵr gwyn, a'i guras glaswyn,  
 A gwayw a erlyn *ysdât* Gwrlais;  
 Wiliam a elwyn' Peredur Prydyn,  
 A'i *iemyn* â'u fŷn, pob un a phais. 20

*Ysgwier* terwyn, o urddawl gruddwyn,  
 A vyn roddi llyn ym er vy llais;  
 Aur a wisg ar wŷn, ac ariant gorwyn,  
 A'r gwyn, a'r melyn, ni châr malais. 24

Ei vraich ev ar vryn, ei gorf a'i varch gwyn,  
 A dyr gwielyn wrth dre Galais;  
 Ei gledd yn y Glyn, ei law hael, val hyn,  
 A dyr fŷn o'r fŷn ar Gevn-yr-Ais. 28

Ev a drig brigyn Moreiddig Warwyn,  
 Mal brigyn celyn hyd vôr Calais;  
 A llwyth o Wateyn, urddas Brodorddyn,  
 A llywiauwr sy ynn o Wallter Sais. 32

A Wallter galwer, hyd Gwlen, Wiliam;  
 Yn alarch, yn gadben;  
 Wiliam Constans ab Elen,  
 Alexander Rhosser hen. 36

Rhosser, o phrover, oedd frwyth Gwilym Vychan,  
 Val y dwg Gwinllan vlodau canllwyth:  
 Daw Wiliam, a'i holl dylwyth, o'r prophwyd,  
 O'r Barwn hen-llwyd, o'r brenhinllwyth; 40

I bawb o'r Saison y tâl bwyth ei fŷn,  
 Yr Ellmyn ddyfryn a wna'n ddifrwyth.

18. *Gwrlais*, Iarll Cernyw: the earl of Cornwall. His wife was the fair *Eigyr*, the mother of the mythological Arthur, by Uthr Pendragon. *Brut Gr. ab Arthur*.

30. *Mal brigyn celyn*, "like the holly," which is lasting and ever-

green.

35. *Constans ab Elen*, or, *Custenyn* vab Helen: Constantine the Great.

40. *Barwn hen-llwyd*, the bard alludes here, perhaps, to sir David Gam, who was one of the ancestors of William Vaughan.

O denlli y Nordd y gwna danllwyth gwyn,  
Ac o gan' gelyn y gwna golwyth ; 44

Tori y trevi trwy wŷth, ac archoll,  
Trychu tyrau oll val y twrch trwyth.  
*Treio* cyviaunder rhwng tri-wŷth cannyn,  
Troi yno eu *hæsmyn* tir yn esmwyth ; 48

Yn nannedd Gogledd, a'i gwaglwyth drylwyn,  
Ev a ry un frwyn vawr iawn ei frwyth.  
Yn iad Sais gwastad âg ystwyth onen,  
Yu nwyael y pen y gwna le pwyth ; 52

Un cadben gaden' rhag adwyth a brad,  
Un ceidwad i'r wlad o Wgawn lwyth.  
Un braich dros gan'-meirch, ac wyth o dyrau,  
Un bàr a eiste'n Aber Ystwyth. 56

47. *tri-wyth cannyn*, an expression signifying many, or a multitude.

knt., who was William Vaughan's grandfather by the mother's side.

54. *Wgawn*, sir Henry Wogan,

## XXII.

## I WILYM AB MORGAN AB DAVYDD AB GWILYM.

THE bard styles William ab Morgan, the lion of the quick spear—and he says of him, that he was free from pride; that in his conduct he was just and upright; and that his house was ever open for the reception of minstrels. The order of minstrels is defined to consist of three professors, viz. a bard, an historian, and a domestic teacher. These minstrels, who were lawfully constituted, found in William ab Morgan a protector, and a defender of their rights against the incroachments of those spurious minstrels who in the bard's time were beginning to make inroads upon the institution.

GWILIAM ab Morgan, llew gwaywlym divalch,  
Ab Davydd ab Gwilym;  
Ab Siancyn â'r llewynn llym,  
A ran cyviaunder einym.

4

Einym mae privfordd, bob unawr, adrev  
I odrau 'Sgyrd Vawr;  
Ni bu 'leni un blaenawr  
Ei well ev rhwng nev a llawr.

8

Pumwell yw Wiliam i roi *paement*,  
Myn llaw hen Armon! no holl Normant;  
Deuwell yw Wiliam, os deallant,  
No WILIAM GONCWER, ac no Holant.

12

XXII. An ode to William ab Morgan, ab David, ab William, ab Jenkin, ab Adam, ab Reginald Herbert, son of Peter Fitzherbert, &c. ancestors of the earls of Pembroke, Montgomery, and Powys. He was a second cousin to Herbert, earl of Pembroke.

6. *'Sgyryd Vawr*, the Skyrid Vawr, or St. Michael's holy Mount, near

Abergavenny. "Here is a remarkable rent, or chasm, occasioned by some convulsion of nature: the tradition is that it was rent at the *crucifixion* of our Saviour; and they add, as in Ireland, such is the sanctity of the ground, that no venomous reptile harbours here, or would live if conveyed hither." *Rev. J. Evans's Letters*, p. 377.

Ac o ergyd gwell no Gwrgant Varvdrwch,  
I lywiau'r heddwch val yr haeddant.

*Reial* y gwnaeth Duw lle yr aroant,  
Rhoi'n Ngwent holl Gymmru er tynu tant ; 16  
Rhoi deuddydd yn un, os hir dyddiant,  
I roi o un gwr win ac ariant ;  
Rhoi Wiliam, val rhoi Rolant drwy'r Yspacen,  
Rhoi Herbert o'n blaen val Siarl'maen sant. 20

Uwch ydd â gwrda o ddau g'weirdant  
Nog o wyr milain chweugain a chant ;  
Uwch tŵr no chastell o chyd-diriant ;  
Uwch vydd blaenion òn no gwaelod nant ; 24  
Uwch yw ach Wiliam no chwechant cadair,  
Uwch y barnai fair vraich bryn no phant.

Tri frwythlawn gerddor a ragorant,  
Un yw bardd ei hun ac a henwant ; 28  
Ail yw *'storiawr* ac a alwant ;  
Trydydd teuluwr cywydd, os cânt,  
A'r tri hyn a'u fÿn ar fyniant dewin,  
Aur a gwin gan lin Godwin a gânt. 32

15. *Reial*=very good.

16. *Rhoi*=rhoai.

17. *Rhoi deuddydd yn un*, "to make two days to count as one;" and that was done by sitting up all the night, so that the day previous and the day following should be joined as to appear only one.

20. *Herbert*, the earl of Pembroke. Edward IV. gave strict orders to William Herbert, when he created him earl of Pembroke, that he and his descendants should use the surname of *Herbert* in future, to the exclusion of the Welsh mode in pedigrees of using *ab* William, *ab* Thomas, *ab* Gwilym, &c. as the earl's Welsh ancestors had done for several generations. The earl as a matter of course obeyed; but his relatives in Monmouthshire continued the *ab* system, of which the hero of this ode is

a specimen. *Dugdale's Baronage*.

22. *milain*, a villain, or clown.

32. *Aur a gwin gan lin Godwin a gânt*, "gold and wine will they obtain from him who is of the line of Godwin." There was a commission issued by Edward IV. in 1462, to Ieuan ab Rhydderch ab Ieuan Llwyd of Gogerddan, Hywel Swardwal, Ieuan Denlwyn, and Ieuan Brechva, (who were bards and heralds, and chief men of skill in pedigrees in all South Wales,) to trace the pedigree of William Herbert, about to be created earl of Pembroke. They presented to his majesty their certificate, in four several languages, British, Latin, English, and French, stating that they found the said William Herbert to have been descended from Peter Fitzherbert, in the reign of king John, and from Herbert son of Godwin, son

Penceirddiaid a'u câr lle 'mgymmharant,  
 Haid o *dinceriaid* byth nis carant ;  
 Teuluwr a'u câr, darpar cerdd dant ;  
 Erestyn nis câr ev â'i gradant ; 36  
 Clêr y dom erom, heb warant amlwg,  
 Ei guwch a'i olwg a ochelant.

A ganwyv i'm oes o ogoniant,  
 Ev â i Wiliam yn gerdd voliant ; 40  
 A genais o lais yn ddilysiant  
 I Wilym drwy'r byd ydd â'n voliant ;  
 Ei glod a draethir gan gildant brido,  
 Tra draetho genau, tra ddyweto tant. 44

Cynt wyv at Wiliam i gael ei ramant,  
 No'r hydd rhag cynydd dros wâr ceunant ;  
 Cynt wyv at Wilym er canu tant,  
 Nog ebol, neu iwrch, dros vlaen gobant ; 48  
 No llucheden wen rhwng nant ac envys,  
 No brys draig Emrys, neu gau amrant.

Ysgriven Siarls am y *Lutenant*,  
 A'i 'stúd, a'i blwyv, a'i ystod, a'i blant ; 52

of Elfrid, who had married a sister of the earls Harold and Tosti, in the reign of Edward the Confessor. It is the abovementioned Godwin that the bard here refers to, when he says that William was "of the line of Godwin."

45. *i gael ei ramant*, "to gain his approbation." Rhmanent [רם *Heb.* to exalt], *derchaviaeth*; *arddwyread*; *cannoliaeth*: exaltation, praise.

50. *draig Emrys*, "the dragon of Emrys."

King Emrys being unwell at Winchester, a person of the name of Eppa took an opportunity of administering to him a poisonous draught. Uthr, Emrys's brother, who was at that time with his army in Wales, saw in the heavens a very brilliant star of great magnitude, from the top of which a single ray of light was seen

to issue forth; and above the ray was seen a ball of fire in the shape of a dragon; and from the mouth of the dragon were seen two rays issuing out, one of which extended itself in the direction of France, and the other towards Ireland; and these rays were seen, each of them, to determine in seven smaller ones. When Uthr saw this, he became terribly afraid; and inquired of his wise men what the vision meant. And Merlin replied and said, that it announced that the king, his brother, was dead. From this circumstance, it is said, Uthr was ever afterwards called UTHR PENDRAGON. *Brut Gr. ab Arthur*.

51. *Lutenant*=Lieutenant, a substitute for the lord of the manor; a steward of the courts' leet and baron.



A'i 'stent, a'i diredd, a'i holl veddiant ;  
 A'i 'stôr, a'i drysor, ac hŷd yr ânt ;  
 A'i gwr't gwyn purwyn, mewn peiriant gwyn-galch,  
 A'i gaerau murgalch ; rhygarw Morgant ! 56

54. *ac hŷd yr ânt*, "and as far as they extended." It is not exactly known what Charles it was who is mentioned (line 51) as having drawn up the deed respecting the extent of William ab Morgan's property.



## XXIII.

## I LEWIS AB GWATCYN, O VRODORDDYN.

JUDGING from the internal evidence of this poem it was composed whilst the bard was on the eve of leaving Bredwardine, where he had been on a visit. He was evidently loath to part. This we learn from the account of the inward struggling that took place in his mind between appetite and reason; or rather, to adopt his own expression, between his body and his soul. His appetite, or sensuality, would have him remain and indulge himself in eating, drinking, &c.; but his reason, on the contrary, directed him to abstain from such indulgence. On this occasion he might well say,

“Video meliora, proboque; deteriora sequor.”

The bard through the remainder of the poem writes in praise of his host.

TRIGAV i gym'ryd rhagawr,  
 Heb dewi, mewn y byd mawr;  
*Ymargio*, blino'n ddwy blaid,  
 Mae yno 'nghorf am enaid. 4  
 Yr enaid ni châr ronyr  
 A garo y corf gorwag gwyn;  
 Ni vyn y corfyn, be caid,  
 Iddo a vyno v'enaid; 8  
 V'enaid, o caid, a vyn cael  
 Vwyd o nev dan ei avel;  
 Y corf a vyn, heb nacâu,  
 Gael iddo win a gwleddau; 12  
 Yr enaid, yn wirionach,  
 A dan y byd, val dyn bach;  
 Y corf a vyn, o'r llyn llawn,  
 Ragoriaeth ar y gwiriawn; 16

XXIII. Addressed to Lewis ab Watkin, of Bredwardine. He was the second son of Watkin Vaughan, of Bredwardine, esq.

2. *mewn y byd mawr*, “in the midst of plenty.”

3. *Ymargio* = to argue a point.

14. *A dan y byd* = a â dan y byd.

Chwannawg yw'r corf bywiawg bach, I veddwi a chyveddach ; Govyn bragodlyn, a'i gael, Gevn nos, a govyn <i>Wassael</i> ;	20
Govyn y mac am gyvedd, Govyn mac drachgevn y medd. Mae'r <i>disiau</i> ? mae <i>sicrau</i> 'r Sieb?	
Mae'r cardiau? mae'r cywirdeb?	24
Mae'r <i>dawns</i> , a'i <i>siawns</i> rhwng pob saith?	
Mae'r <i>carols</i> ? mae'r cwrw cilwaith?	
A oes man o Ismynydd Nas cerddo cyn darfo'r dydd?	28
Da yw'r <i>Asbi</i> , drwy'r Ysbaen, Deuwell pawb yn nghastell Paen. Da <i>Lewis</i> wrth deuluwr, <i>Ab Gwalcyn</i> Vrodorddyn dŵr ;	32
Rholant Llanbedr, a Rhiwlen ; Rhyswr o hil Rhosser hen ; Penwn sy i hwn es enyd, Palvais Gwallter Sais a'i hyd.	36
Pendevig dros Warwig sel, Peues Gruffydd ab Hywel ; Arwydd dewr o wraidd ei daid, Arv arian yr Ivoriaid.	40
Lewis ar Elvael y sydd Ewin llew, ac un llywydd ;	

23. *disiau* = dice. *Sicrau* = checkers : chess board ; draughts, &c. Also the checker-work painted on both sides of the door of a common inn or public-house to represent the backgammon table within, and to invite the passers by to walk in to play a game, and taste the ale, &c.

*Sieb* = Cheapside, in London.

27. *Ismynydd*, here *Elvael* Ismynydd : the lower Elvael.

29. *Asbi*, perhaps *Aspe*, a town of Spain, in Valencia, situated on the Elda.

30. *yn Nghastell Paen*, Pain's Castle, in the parish of Llan Bedr, Radnorshire. It is now in ruin. It

is clear from this poem that *Lewis* ab Watkin, whom the bard calls the "Orlando" of Llan Bedr and Rhiwlen, had considerable possessions in the hundred of Pain's Castle. In the Cambrian Quarterly Magazine, vol. iii. p. 301, &c. there is a historical romance entitled, "*The siege of Pain's Castle*."

33. *Rhiwlen*, now Rhulen, a parish on the banks of the Edwy, Radnorshire.

34. *Rhosser hen*, sir Roger Vaughan, knighted at Agincourt, in 1415.

39. *Arwydd dewr*, &c. "A specimen of his grandfather's bravery."

Nid elw i ddyn, dêl a ddêl;	
Ei brovi o bai ryvel.	44
Ev a wisg am gorv ei ais,	
Y teyrnwalch, <i>Whitharnais</i> ;	
Ev a wnaed ar vin Edwy	
Yn ben, yn gadben glan Gwy.	48
Ac os <i>alwens</i> â <i>grwens</i> gant,	
I'n tiredd a anturiant;	
Lewis, ail Eli a Siob,	
A'u try cilwaith val <i>trolob</i> .	52
Troi a wnav, heb <i>entro'n</i> is,	
I alw awen at Lewis;	
Oni ddaw, vy nghorf llawen!	
Lewys o'i lys, a'i <i>Hâl</i> wen,	56
At y corf, pan vo teg hav,	
Vy enaid a anvonav.	

43. *Nid elw i ddyn*, &c. "Whoever engages Lewis in conflict will gain nothing."

47. *Edwy*, a river in Radnorshire.

52. *Trolob* = trollop; benyw an-nhaclus ei gwisg; laesen: *a slattern*.

56. *Hâl*=a hall: *neuadd*.

## XXIV.

RHYS AB SION, GLYN NEDD.

THE bard traces out Rice's pedigree, and proves him to be descended from Collwyn ab Tugno, one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales, and also from Iestyn ab Gwrgant, lord of Glamorgan. He alludes (line 23) with exultation to some advantage which Rice, who was a decided Lancastrian, had recently had in a scuffle with certain Yorkists. He regards Rice as an enemy to the English, as a nation; and one that would neither appoint an Englishman to fill any public office under government, nor even allow him to be empannelled on a jury.

Aur lin a aeth ar Lyn Nedd,  
Oedd lin urddawl o Wynedd;  
Llin y mab o berllan Mon,  
Llwyn gwin Collwyn ac Einion.  
Rhys ab Sion â'r hysbys iaith,  
Gwr yw acw o Grugeaith;  
Ac o Iestyn a'i gastell,  
O Wrgan, gwr ugain gwell.

4

5

XXIV. Addressed to Rice ab John, esq. of Aber Pergwin, in the Vale of Neath, Glamorganshire. Rice possessed an extensive property in the Vale of Neath; and he held some office of trust under Henry VI. He was governor of the tract of land that lies between the rivers Neath and Avon, as is evident from the poem. See lines 17—20.

5. *yr hysbys iaith* = y Gymmaeg.

6. *Crugcaith*, a town with the ruins of an ancient castle, not far from Tre Madoc, Carmarvonshire. Collwyn ab Tugno, the fourth of the fifteen tribes of North Wales, in point of time, is represented as the eighth in descent from Maelgwn, the monarch of Gwynedd, or North Wales. He had his residence within his lord-

ship of Ardudwy in a square tower, still apparent (according to Mr. Pen-nant) within the precincts of Harlech castle, which was then called *Caer Collwyn*. He was also lord of Evi-onydd, and within that seigniorship he had his castle at *Crugcaith*. To this the bard alludes when he says of Rice,—*Gwr acw o Grugcaith*.

The arms attributed to the tribe of Collwyn were sable, a chevron between three fleurs de lis argent.

Rice ab Sion bore the same arms in the 15th century, probably quartered with those of Iestyn ab Gwrgant.

8. *o Wrgan*, "of the line of Gwrgan." Gwrgan, or Gwrgant, ab Rhys, was a chieftain of Dyfed, and married the daughter and heiress of sir

Ach hen Rys a 'sgrivenwyd At gnewyll aur Watcyn Llwyd. Rhys ab Sion sy'n ddigoniant Yn nwyllan Nedd, yn ael nant ;	12
O Sion ab Rhys o Wynedd, Rhys ab Siancyn o Lyn Nedd. <i>Cotarmur</i> , val asur liw, <i>Aur</i> y sydd i Rys heddiw.	16
Senedd vawr llys Nedd yw vo, <i>Lutenant</i> a'i wlad tano. Yma pau Rhys yn mhob rhan, Yn ddov, o Nedd i Avan ;	20
Pob man blaenau Morganwg, A deunaw llys hyd Waun Llwg. Y dydd ddoe rhoed fonod dda, <i>Sax</i> hen, ar wyr Saxonia ;	24
Ac ar y cwn, a'r gwyr caith, Ddialedd heddyw eilwaith ; Sidan a wisgasan' gynt, Heb sidan beisiau ydynt.	28
Mae nhwy weithion mewn noethi, Heddyw mewn aur ydd fŷm ni ; Y sydd a welwyv o Sais, Tinbwdr a reto unbais.	32
Amser Saison a dderyw, Mudaw o Sais, madws yw, I'r don rhag ergydion <i>gwens</i> Ho ! wyr Hers ; Ha ! Ha ! 'r <i>hwrswens</i> .	36

Philip de Wiz, a Norman baron, who had planted himself *vi et armis* in Dyved. He erected Wiston castle, in the county of Pembroke. This match reconciled the Welsh population to its descendants, who assumed the name of *Wogan* from the said Gwrgan. The family is now extinct in the male line ; and the earl of Cawdor has purchased the Wiston castle estate.

There was also another Gwrgan of note. He was fourth in descent from Bleddyn ab Maenyrch, the last of the

Welsh *reguli* of Brecknockshire.

10. *At gnewyll aur*, &c. "The pedigree of Rice has been copied out down to the golden nucleus of Watkin Lloyd." The bard here compliments Rice's daughter-in-law. Her name was Elizabeth, daughter of Watkin Lloyd, of Brecknock. See note (line 2) to *Dosp. I.* 25.

15. *Cotarmur aur* = A coat of armour made of gold.

24. *Sax*, *sear*, or *seax*, the Saxon word for a sword. *Sax* hen ; an allusion to *Brad y Cyllill hirion*.

Bernir Hengist yn ddiran, A Rys a wŷr <i>rhiwlio'i</i> ran ; Ni welir Sais diddirwy, Na Saison mewn <i>Sessiten</i> mwy ;	40
Na dyn o Sais yn dwyn swydd, Na deu-Sais na bon' diswyddl. Yn âs pwynt onis <i>peintiais</i> , Ni ad Rhys ail <i>entrio</i> Sais.	44
Bwrw <i>sinc</i> a wna bâr Siencyn, Bwrw Sais a brysiaw i hyn. Gware tawlbwrdd âg craill, Gware a lladd gwyr y llail ;	48
Tawlbwrdd, gwyr duon Talbod, Tros y hwrdd gwnaed Rhys eu bod. Bu yn <i>Inglont tenont</i> taer, Bid i <i>Inglont</i> byd anghlaer ;	52
Bid hil y bobl annilys, Ac icirll o ran, gerllaw Rhys ; Bid wir, dros wynec y Dwyrain, Ar law Rhys reoli rhai'n.	56

39. *Ni welir Sais*, &c. "No Englishman will be seen without being under tribute."

44. *Ni âd Rhys*, &c. "Rice will not allow the name of an Englishman to appear again on the jury list; for he who is a descendant of Jenkin will hurl the Saxons from him."

45. *Bwrw sinc*=sink; bwrw i lawr; to upset.

*Siencyn*, Jenkin, the name of Rice's ancestor.

51. *Inglont*=England.

49. *Gwyr duon Talbod*, "Talbot and his black men." Talbot, it seems, had the command of a vessel, on board of which there were thirty

persons, namely, *fifteen* white, and *fifteen* black men. A mutiny had taken place, perhaps, in consequence of a lack of provisions. Under this circumstance Talbot is supposed to have proposed drawing lots as who should suffer death, and who should escape. This proposal appearing rational, both parties agreed to it. But Talbot, anxious to save all the white men, had recourse to the following scheme. He so contrived to arrange them that every *ninth* man should fall a victim. This arrangement was done according to the order in the following Latin verse, where the vowel *a* stands for 1; *e*, for 2; *i*, for 3, &c.

4 5 2 1 3 1 1 2 2 3 3 2 2 1  
*Populeum virgam mater regina ferebat.*

Because *o* being the fourth in the order of the vowels, he began by placing first the *four* whom he wished to save; and next to them *five* of those whom he intended should suffer; and so on alternately, according

to the figures which stand over the vowels of the above verse. By this means all the *white* men escaped; but all the others, the lot falling upon every *ninth* man, perished.



## XXV.

## MOLIANT SION AB RHYS A SIANCYN.

THE bard opens his ode by wishing happiness to John ab Rice; and alludes, in complimentary terms, to his having married Elizabeth, daughter of Watkin Lloyd. The festive board at Aber Pergwm, with which he was delighted, next occupies his attention; for, it appears, he met with many guests there who as well as their generous hosts took pleasure in talking their native language, the Welsh. However, between the luxuries of the table and the conversation of the company, the poet's *Awen* was excited; and we find him launching forth, with his wonted felicity, in praise of his host, the lady of the house, and the whole establishment.

BONEDD dwylan Nedd dêl yn wyn—y sant,  
 Sion ab Rhys a Siancyn;  
 Bonid oedd bena' deuddyn  
 Bual glew, a nobl y Glyn? 4

Glyn Nedd y bonedd lle derbyniwyd eigr  
 O egin Wateyn Llwyd;  
 Gwin Elsbedd a gyveddwyd  
 Gwyn, i bawb wrth gywain bwyd. 8

Bwyd llys Arthur lwyd ar lydwm; y llall,  
 Bwyd llys Aber Pergwm;  
 Bob ddeg, ni rivid ddegwm,  
 Bort y rhai'n; a'r bara trwm. 12

Plas trwm val y plwm, lle mae plaid Ollwyn,  
 Wellwell ei henaviaid;

XXV. An ode in praise of John ab Rice, ab John, ab Rice (of North Wales), and of Rice ab Siancyn, of the Vale of Neath. John ab Rice lived at Aber Pergwm, and his wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Watkin Lloyd, of Brecknock.

Arms, sable, a chevron between three fleur-de-lis argent.

13. *plaid Ollwyn*, the clan, or family, of Collwyn ab Tagno, the founder of the tribe; from whom John ab Rice was descended.



Yn y plas cwmpas y caid  
Brud heniaith y Brytaniaid. 16

Brytaniaid a vu yn mhob tuedd,  
Beli, Bran, dwyran i bob dewredd;  
Y brenin Arthur, bu rinwedd iddynt;  
Bu yntau arnynt ben tŷrnedd. 20

Bid Sion ar ei ol, ein gorvoledd,  
Benav a hynav o'r brenhinedd;  
Bid trwy'r hyd hevyd etivedd talaith;  
Bid benrhaith vy iaith o gryd i vedd. 24

Och ym ! onid Sion sy ben bonedd,  
O Wyr i Eglwys Vair, i Ogledd ?  
Oervel ym a hir orwedd yn aviach,  
Od oes ei hofach o waed Siaphedd. 28

Einion ab Collwyn yn nwy Wynedd,  
Evo o Ollwyn a vu allwedd;  
Rhys ab Sianeyn hŷn brenhinedd bob man;  
Sion ab Rhys weithian yn nwyllan Nedd. 32

Nid llai son am Sion nog oedd am Sedd,  
Na'i air, a'i weithred, no'r ewythredd;  
No their-ran y byd ; no thiredl Israel;  
No'r triwyr ryhael ; no'r tair Heledd. 36

Nid avryw'r gleisiaid garu'r dyvredd,  
Ni ovy'n glerddyn ond lle bo gwledd ;

15. *Yn y plas cwmpas y caid*, &c.  
"Throughout the mansion the language spoken was that of the ancient Britons." It affords us pleasure to notice here, that the same language which was spoken at Aber Pergwm, in the middle of the 15th century, is still not only spoken there, but cultivated. The Welsh language is, perhaps, more esteemed there, even now, than in most gentlemen's mansions, taking in all Gwynedd and Dehenbarth. And we heartily wish the present occupier of Aber Pergwm a long life to enjoy the delights of his native spot; who after many years' absence

in foreign climes, and acquiring a knowledge of almost all the continental languages, is more than ever attached to CYMMRU · CYMMRO · CYMMRAEG.

26. *O Wyr*, "from Gower." *Gŵyr*, or Gower, is a promontory of Glamorganshire.

33. *Sedd* · Seth.

36. *triwyr ryhael*, the three generous ones of the isle of Britain, viz. Mordav, Nudd, and Rhydderch.  
*tair Heledd*, i. e. North Wich, Middle Wich, and Nantwich.

37. *Nid avrye*, "it is natural."

Nid oedav na Sion, na'i dudwedd ; na'i dai ;  
Nes myned Sawdai, neu Venai'n vedd. 40

Naw can' clo dan Sion, a naw can' cledd ;  
Naw cantai a gai yn amguedd ;  
Nawradd nev yn drev, diryvedd yw hyn ;  
Naw llyn yn govyn am ei gyvedd. 44

Naw pobydd beunydd yn mhob annedd,  
Naw cog yn nghegin, werin un wedd ;  
Naw arian gwpan lle gwedd gwin cadarn,  
Nawwyr a basarn ar eu bysedd. 48

Nid gwell dau gymmbar un drugaredd,  
No'r ddau o'r Deau hyd ar Duedd ;  
Ni vyn ŵyr Siancyn, dros hedd, ond rhoi llyn ;  
Ni vyn haul Watcyn ond rhoi y wledd. 52

Nid gwell gwr nog ev yn nhangnevedd,  
Nid gwell gwraig no hon am eigion medd ;  
Nid gwell agos, pell ; pa wedd y bai well ?  
Nid gwell gwlad Gadell gled a'i gydwedd. 56

Ni wn eu cyvryw yn un annedd,  
Na naw o agos yn un agwedd ;  
Na chan'-wlad cystadl ; na chan'-wledd Winsor ;  
Na chan'-wr rhagor ; na chan'wragedd. 60

Nawdd Mair, nawdd ei mab, ar El'sabedd ;  
Nawdd Ilar, nawdd Mor, a nawdd Elwedd ;  
Nawdd Caron ar hon, rhinwedd cerddorion ;  
Nawdd yr engylion ar Non Glyn Nedd. 64

40. *Sawdai* = Sawdde, a river which flows into the Towy, near Llanddyfri.

48. *basarn*, a turned mapple bowl of immense size ; a bowl : *diod-lestr*.

50. *hyd ar Duedd*, as far as the river Tweed. *Lewis Morris*.

56. *gwlad Gadell*, "the territory of Cadell." Cadell, the eldest son of Rhodri the Great, who had South Wales for his share on the division

of Wales. This happened in the year 876. Hence South Wales is sometimes called *Bro Gadell*.

62. *Mor*, the son of Morydd ab Ceneu, ab Coel, a saint who lived in the fifth century. Llanvor, in Penllyn, near Bala, is dedicated to him.

*Elwedd*, a saint, to whom Llan Elwedd, on the borders of the Wye, near Built, is dedicated.

## XXVI.

## I SIANCYN WINSTWN, O ERGIN LLANARAN.

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THE bard expresses himself as being very desirous to go and pay his respects to Winston, for he was generous and kindhearted; and although, paternally at least, an Englishman by birth, yet he had acquired a thorough knowledge of the Welsh language, of which he was a great admirer. In a word, Winston had become a Welshman in principle and practice. From this we learn that our bard was, in reality, an enemy to those only who despised the language; for he was convinced that he who was a lover of the Welsh language could not be otherwise than attached to the Welsh nation. Throughout the ode he is enraptured in praise of Winston.

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YDD wy'n arovyn lle'r eiddunwn gael  
 Gweled Siancyn Winstwn;  
 I'm einioes y dymunwn  
 Weled ————— hwn. 4

Hwn ydyw'r haelav o'r Barwniaid,  
 A'r gorau o'r holl ysgwiëriaid;  
 Ac eryr cerddwyr, a phenceirddiaid swydd;  
 A chlo ac allwydd uwchlaw gwylliaid. 8

Ergin sy'n gwneuthur penaduriaid,  
 Ergin, ei gwerin sy gywiriaid;  
 Ergin, gyfredin ei gyfrydiaid trin,  
 Ergin a ry gwin i rai gweiniaid. 12

I gwmpas dwr glas y daw'r gleisiaid,  
 Awn at Salmon Sion a'i ysweiniaid;  
 Awn at Siancyn Wyn, enaid ei ardal;  
 Od â i'r hoewal adar hwyaid. 16

XXVI. An ode addressed to Jenkin Winston, of Llangarron, in the district of Ergin, or Urchenfield, Herefordshire.

9. *Ergin*, or Urchenfield, was formerly a portion of the province of

Gwent. The three divisions of Gwent were Ergin, Ewas, and Ystrad Yw.

16. *hoewal* (according to Dr. W. O. Pughe's Dict.) signifies agitation of water; whirling of a stream; an eddy. *Hoewal*, however, is not,

Av i Lan Aran at vlaenoriaid,  
 Ac yn Llan Aran cav anneriaid ;  
 Aed i Lan Aran a wnaid heb arian ;  
 Doed o Lan Aran â'i law'n euraid. 20

At Siancyn erchwyn ydd â eirchiaid,  
 I erchi i gael pob arch a gaid ;  
 Siancyn o'i dyddyn AWDL DODDAID a vyn  
 Wrth ovyn cannyn o ddatgeiniaid. 24

Mae'n benav pob rhai o'i hynaviaid,  
 Mae yntau'n unben, myn vy enaid !  
 Mae wythran yn lân lonaid y dengwlad ;  
 Mam, henvam, hendad, a thad, a thaid. 28

Siancyn, Cwstenyn y Winstyniaid,  
 Siancyn, ail emyn, o'r Gwilymiaid ;  
 Siancyn o dre Wyn sy dri naid o'r blaen,  
 Siancyn vlaen a draen i'r estroniaid. 32

Da yw o agos dwr bendigaid ;  
 Da yw'r oferen drwy'r offeiriaid,  
 Da yw'r evengyl, ac y dywaid wir ;  
 Da, dir, o phrovir yw bedd San Fraid. 36

Da air sy i Siancyn gan awduriaid ;  
 Da wr yw Siancyn, medd Doctoriaid ;  
 Da ddyn yw Siancyn, os haid a vag vâl ;  
 Os uchel a wnel Cardinaliaid. 40

Siancyn gyf Watcyn â rhoi ni phaid ;  
 Siancyn, bob blwyddyn, yw'n nerth a'n plaid ;  
 Siancyn yw'n rhwymyn, a'n rhaid, a'n penrhaith ;  
 Os penrhaith ein iaith ydoedd groes naid. 44

strictly speaking, an eddy, but rather the middle, or main river, during floods. The bard in another ode says, *Ac no hoewal lliw trwy ganol llyn* ; from which it is clear he meant the current, the main current ; called also *brwynen yr avon*. The *Dwyv*, or *Dwy*, which tradition says flows

through Llyn Tegid, may be considered a *hoewal*.

Drwyodd er dyddiau 'r Drywon,  
 Y rhwyv y DYVRDWWYV ei dôn.

23. *Awdl Doddaid*, a metre so called. The metre is *Cynghawg*, ending in two lines.

44. *Os penrhaith*, &c. Probably an

Os gwyn yr arian ; os gwen canaid ;  
 Siancyn a wisg wŷn ar Wasgwyniaid ;  
 Os gwen eiry bellen, neu beilliaid drosto ;  
 Odid a allo neidio i'w naid. 48

Evo yw'r dethawl vry o'r doethiaid,  
 A'r doetha' eilwaith o'r detholiaid ;  
 Ar ol y dethol ydd aid, nos a dydd,  
 Obry at deunydd llew'r Brutaniaid. 52

Canwn i'r Brytwn, tra brytwyv vi gerdd ;  
 A phoed gwir a ganwyv ;  
 Cerddwr i Siancyn Wyn wyv,  
 Caniadwr Siancyn ydwyv. 56

allusion to the prince of Wales, who had a *croes naid* carried before him, as mentioned in note 2, Dosp. I. 20.

45. *os gwen canaid*, "if the *canaid* be fair." *Canaid*, an epithet for the moon, in Glamorganshire; but in

Powys land the term is applied to the moon's disk.

46. *ar Wasgwyniaid*, "upon Gascoigne horses."

47. *eiry bellen*, a snowball.

## XXVII.

## I SION AB HYWEL, O EUAS.

THE bard styles his hero by the epithet of a young stag, as being descriptive of his activity. In his character as the defender of his country's rights he calls him "the sword of the borders of Euas," in whose hand, when flourished, the glaive resembled the appearance of a wheel in motion. The bard next assumes to himself the title of a missionary, and says that after the example of the apostles, who went about preaching, so would he go about proclaiming every where the deeds of his hero. And alluding to his having been in the habit, from his childhood, of visiting the hero's father, the bard takes an opportunity of descanting upon his virtues and liberality; and mentions that the first piece of gold he ever had, as the reward of his muse, was from him.

Y CARW ieuanc ar Euas,	
Ac yn y grudd egin gras ;	
Sion ab Hywel, un helynt,	
Ab Thomas a Gildas gynt ;	4
Dur noeth drwy'r marsdir, a'i nerth,	
Ac o Wilcog mae'n goelcerth.	
Mae orig ddawn Meirig Ddu	
Yn ei ael yn annelu ;	8
Cleddeu blaeneudir Euas	
Ydyw a'i laiv val rhod las.	
Trosolwayw cantre Selyv,	
Yn y dwrn, i Sion a dyv.	12
Chwyl yr ebystyl drwyr'r byd	
A'm helpodd yn vy mhulpyd ;	
I bob tu i bregethu gynt	
O wyrth Iesu'r aethasynt.	16
Aeth rhai i Naz'reth o'r rhai'n ;	
Rhai hevyd i dir Rhuvain ;	
Minnau'n ol dyddiau'r deuddeg	
Yw Andras gwlad Euas deg.	20
Doe, ddyw Sul, gweithredoedd Sion	
A draethais hyd ar Ieithon ;	
Gwnav i lys Bowys i'm byw	
Gredu mai'r gorau ydyw.	24

XXVII. Addressed to John ab Howell, ab Thomas, of Euas.



O'r haelder, mal llyvr <i>Sieron</i> , Rholiau y sydd ar helw Sion.	
Ei dad, mor wrda ydoedd, Llew a sant holl Euas oedd ;	28
Ar ei ol Sion yw'r ail sant, Sion yr eilwaith sy'n Rolant. Awn gynt, ar ogledddynt glas, Yn ieuanc iawn i Euas.	32
Sion am gwahoddes innau, Velly ei dad ; a vu well dau ? Cynta' aur, o'r cant uriad, A roed ym oedd aur ei dad.	36
Cynta' dillad taladwy Ym a roes Sion o'u mars hwy ; Llyna wr grym, llawn o'r gras, Llywydd a chanllaw Euas ;	40
Clo'r dre hir ar sir a'r swydd ; I'r Gelli dôr ac allwydd ; A maen gwn, hyd yn Mynwy, A phren o goed Dyfryn Gwy ;	44
A fridd â chyf o ruddaur ; A frwyn i weileh Dyfryn Aur. Po hynav, doethav vydd dyn Adroddus da ei wreiddyn ;	48
Gwell vydd hen dderwen yn ddâr, No dwy ieuainc mewn daiar. A gafer o'r hen gyfion Yn hengoed, unoed y dôn ;	52
Cyf uchel oedd Hywel hael, Sion e vo sy un avel ; Sion o'r hen gyfion yw'r gainc, A â ddeuoed gwydd ieuainc ;	56
Oed Simeon wirion, a'i was ; Oed Noc ar <i>warden</i> Euas ; Oed Addav o'r eithavion, A thri oed Seth ar iad Sion.	60

25. *Sieron*, St. Jerome.42. *Gelli*, the Hay, a town in Brecknockshire, upon the Wye.46. *Dyfryn Aur*, the Golden Vale, near the village of Longtown, in Herefordshire.



## XXVIII.

I THOMAS AB DAVYDD, AB WATCYN, AB HENRI,  
O WENT.

WE have in this poem an account of the bard being at Caerlion, where he accidentally met with Thomas ab David, who kindly invited him to an inn there, to take some wine with him; which invitation the bard readily accepted; and after refreshing themselves with claret, oranges, and other luxuries, Thomas asked him to his house, desiring him, at the same time, to be prepared to give him a specimen of his muse. The bard went with him, and left this poem as a memorial of Thomas's hospitality, as well as a record of his valour. Thomas is here represented as possessing the qualities of the eagle, the hawk, and the lion; and withal a generous disposition. From the bard afterwards speaking of the durability and excellency of black colour, and applying the epithet to Thomas, it would seem Thomas was of a swarthy countenance. The bard compares Thomas's courage in the conflict to be, like the black colour, unyielding. He next mentions that when there were disturbances every where from Caer Went to Alnwick, the fame of Thomas as a warrior was universally spread.

A MI yn nhrev Caerllion  
 Deg ar Wysg, lle bu'r vort gron ;  
 Lle gwelwn, îs gwyndwn Gwent,  
 Oen da Duw gwindai dwy-Went ; 4  
 Troi i davarn o'r tarw dwyvol  
 Yn nglan Wysg, vy ngalw'n ei ol ;  
 Galw ar y llyn gloew ar lled,  
 Galw *Oraets*, ac ar *Glared* ; 8  
 Yved y gwin yn ddivalch ;  
 Egori ei bwrs o'r gwr balch ;  
 Rhoi aur am win o'r gwinwydd,  
 I minnau rhoi mw nai rhydd ; 12  
 Erchi'm hevyd gyd âg ev  
 Draw â mydr dramwy adrev.

XXVIII. Addressed to Thomas ab Gwent. He lived at Caerlion on the David, ab Watkin, ab Henry, of Usk.

Dov at Tomas ab Davydd	
Os vy nhraed a saiv yn rhydd.	16
Eginyn <i>Gwateyn</i> yw'r gwaith	
<i>Ab Henri</i> a phump anrhaith.	
Trigo'n vy euro wnav vi,	
Troi o vewn tre y Venni.	20
Pwysaw ar ddaiar ddwy-Went,	
Prydu i gorf <i>llewpart</i> Gwent ;	
Mae ardymhyr ar Domas,	
Mal aur trwm, i lawer tras ;	24
Ardymhyr eryr, neu walch ;	
Neu lew dov, neu hael divaleh :	
Dau natur, val Arthur lwyd,	
Ar ei wyneb a ranwyd ;	28
Natur gwr yn troi i garu,	
Natur llew'n anturiaw llu.	
Yngolwg Marc 'vengylwr.	
Yw llew'n y gad, a llun gwr ;	32
A Brutus ab Sylvius oedd	
Lew du ar gwbl o'i diroedd.	
Tomas val Gildas yw'r gwr	
A llew du yn lle deuwr.	36
Ni roes na Mair, na Iesu,	
Lliw i un dyn well no du ;	
Lliw du a saiv lle daw sias,	
Lliw <i>diement</i> velly Domas.	40
Du a gyvyd i gyvoeth,	
Ac o wr du rygarw doeth ;	
Du hevyd vydd dihavarch,	
A dewr vydd du ar ei varch ;	44
Tomas yntau a ymwan	
Tros wlad hwnt â'r trosol tân.	
Pan vu'r ymdaeru dig	
O Gaer Wen i gwr Anwig ;	48

15. *Dov* = deuwr.33. *Brutus ab Sylvius*, great grandson of *Eneas*. See an account of him in *Brut. Gr. ab Arthur*.35. *Gildas*, the historian.40. *diement*, here muchudd ; jet.42. *rhyygarw*,<sup>9</sup> (rhy-carw), a deer of the first class ; a nonpareil of his kind.48. *Gaer Wen* = Caerwent, situated in the middle of upper Gwent, about five miles from Chepstow, was a con-

Ni bu son yn wyneb Sias,	
Onid am a wnai Domas.	
Mair a'i ceidw, Mwrog, Cedwyn,	
Milwr Gwent ar amler gwyn.	52
Llaw a braich i Gaerllion,	
Llaw ferv ar vwyall a fon.	
Llaw Ieuan vu dan y dwr,	
Bid iddo law'r Bedyddiwr ;	56
Llaw o vaint arall a vu,	
Llaw dan lèn asen Iesu ;	
Llaw Nudd, llaw Ddavydd, oedd dda,	
Llaw Domas ger llaw Deuma ;	60
Duw a'i rhoes â phryd rhyswr,	
Duw a ro a garo'r gwr ;	
Duw a ro iddo drioed,	
Dywysawg cerdd Gwent-is-Coed.	64

siderable station in the time of the Romans. It was called by the emperor Antoninus, *Urbs Venta Silurum*; and by the Britons, *Caer Went*. There was formerly an academy, or university, (supposed to be the first in the British dominions,) founded here by Tathan, a saint of the college of Illtyd, who lived in the beginning of the sixth century. See N. Rogers's *Memoirs of Monmouthshire*; also *Tathan* in the *Camb. Biog.*

51. *Mwrog*, a saint whose history is not known.

55. *Llaw Ieuan*, &c. The bard here wishes his hero to have the hand of John the Baptist, by which request he probably meant, that as

the Baptist by putting his hand under the water was able to lift it up again, and baptize a generation of vipers; so the bard wished Thomas also, whenever he laid hold of the poleaxe, might be able in like manner to lift it up and subdue his foes.

57. *Llaw—arall a vu*, the hand of Thomas the apostle.

58. *llen asen*=y croen; the skin covering the rib.

59. *Davydd*, Thomas ab David's father.

60. *Deuma*, a Cistercian convent at Nantteyrnon, now Lantarnan, near Caerllion, dedicated to St. Deuma. It was founded in the year 1178. See *Brut y Tywosogion*, in *Myv. Arch.* vol. ii. p. 438.

## XXIX.

## AWDL I DRAHAIARN AB IEUAN AB MEIRIG.

THE bard opens his ode by acknowledging the many obligations he was under to Trahaiarn; who, he says, was descended from Adam of Gwent, and Rhirid Vlaidd of Penllyn. He speaks of Trahaiarn as being a man of wealth—a thorough gentleman—an accomplished scholar—and one who loved to see every thing around him elegant and in good taste, and all his friends made comfortable and happy.

Dy aur ym, 'Trahaiarn! byth a drig i'm byw,  
Mab Ieuan ab Meirig;  
Dy *glared* yn enwedig,  
Dy *oreis* vry dros ei vrig. 4

O vrig cyf bonheddig hen  
Yr oeddych, ac o'i wreiddyn;  
O ger llaw trev Gaerllion,  
O deml Wysg, o Adam lin. 8

Adam! gwn baham oedd dy hŷn, val iarll,  
Rhirid Vlaidd o Benllyn;  
O Went y doi'n gynta' dyn,  
Ac o Wynedd eginyn. 12

O Wynedd y mae i'wch ennill,  
O ddwy Went arvau'n un ddull;  
*Tri phen saeth* a aeth uwch oll,  
*Tri phen blaid* un wraidd yn well. 16

XXIX. An ode addressed to Trahaiarn, ab Ieuan, ab Meyrick, of Penrhos Vwrdios, near Caerllion.

8. *Adam lin*, "of the line of Adam;" i. e. Adam of Gwent. His arms (see line 15) were argent on a band sable, three pheons of the first.

16. *Tri phen blaid*, "three wolves'

heads." The arms of Rhirid Vlaidd were argent on a pile vert, three wolves' heads erased of the field, one and one. He was lord of Penllyn, in Meirionethshire; of Pennant Melangell, in Montgomeryshire; and of the eleven Towers, in Shropshire. He was sister's son of Maredudd ab

Gwell wyt, Trahaiarn ! darn dëyrnaidd,  
 Nog wythwyr o wyr ysgwëiriaidd ;  
 Gwell Duw o'i voli yn ddyvalaidd,  
 Gwell gwin, er meithrin pob dyn, no'r maidd ; 20

Gwell llew yn ei vlew nog arth, neu vlaidd ;  
 Gwell cerddwr no dau angherddwraidd :  
 Gwell ydwyd nog un gwilliadaidd i'n plith,  
 Gwell ydyw'r gwenith no rhith yr haidd. 24

Yr wyd, Trahaiarn ! yn brophwydaidd,  
 Yn dda, o agos, voneddigaid ;  
 Yn llawn gwybodau, ac yn lluniaidd ;  
 Yn ddyledawg hael, yn ddiwladaidd. 28

Yn eryr i'th lys digrynwraidd,  
 Yn dywsawg cerdd baradwysaidd ;  
 Yn Mhenrhos Vwrdeos, pwy vaidd heb law hon ?  
 Yn mron Caer Llion val carw llewaidd. 32

Yn arav ydd wyd, ac yn wraidd,  
 Yn rhyw oen nevawl, yn rhicinaidd ;  
 Yn wrda llawen, yn unbenaidd,  
 Yn arddwyaw clêr yn urddäaidd. 36

Yn ardemlu beirdd yn garuaidd,  
 Yn *ordeiniaw* naw'n gwmp'näaidd,  
 Yn rhoi draw o'th law'n deuluaidd, rhagllaw  
 Yr euraw a ddaw yn arglwyddäaidd. 40

Iesu yn d'adu, lew Gwyndodaidd !  
 I overwyr byd yn Ivoraidd ;  
 I rodli i eirchiaid yn Rhydderchaid,  
 I dalu aur dros gerdd ëosaidd. 44

Bleddyn, prince of Powys. He lived about the middle of the 12th century. See an elegy upon him, by Cynddelw Prydydd Mawr, in the *Myv. Arch.* vol. i. p. 229.

29. *digrynwraidd* (di-cryn-gwr-

aidd), noble, splendid, stately.

37. *ardemlu* = ardyaw ; to entertain.

41. *lew Gwyndodaidd*, "a lion of the North." Trahaiarn is so designated as being descended from Rhirid Vlaid.

Aed lluryg Curig Varchog gŵraidd,  
 I'th ogylch, i'th gylch, i'th lys galchaidl ;  
 A'th noddi o Dduw i'th awenyddaidl wyr,  
 Ein nevawl eryr yn vilwraidd. 48

Dy *gwepwrt* dy gwert sy gyrtiaidd,  
 Dy ddysg sydd amlach no'r gwrŷsg a'u gwraidd,  
 Dy lyvrau (eto'n Gymmröaidl) ysgol,  
 Wrth reol, ydynt wir athrawaidl. 52

Dy adar, dy win yn vreninaidd,  
 Dy gân, dy arian rhag ein diwraidd ;  
 Dy aur a roddaist yn awduraidd rym,  
 Er dy voli ym, wŷr Rhirid Vlaidd ! 56

49. *cupwrt* = a cupboard.

## XXX.

## I RISIART TWRBIL, O LANDUDWG.

IT appears, from this ode, that the bard was in North Wales when he composed it; and that when he visited Turberville he had with him from thence a band, or troop, of minstrels. He says that Turberville was a descendant from Iestyn, lord of Glamorgan, and from Payne Turberville; and also that he was connected with the Leyson family. His mansion is said to be as extensive as that of Grainville's; and in point of wealth it is classed with the house of Herbert, earl of Pembroke. The cellars of Turberville are mentioned as being ever well stocked with all kinds of wine of his own importation. After this, the bard alludes to Turberville's liberality to minstrels; and then wishing him and his wife a long life, and a numerous family to keep up the name of Turberville, he concludes by saying that he and the minstrels from Gwynedd would doubtless be rewarded.

O LECHWEDD Gwynedd i Vorganwg wen,  
I ganu i Landudwg;  
Risiart Twrbil, heb gilwg,  
A ddyd rodd i dda a drwg.

4

Ei dda a bara val maen *beril* mawr,  
Mab Siancyn Twrbervil;  
Iesu a wna o Sisil  
Osod i'n o Iestyn hil.

8

Hil Risiart Twrbil a gaif teirban byd,  
Er bod yn ngwlad Vorgan;

XXX. An ode addressed to Richard Turberville, of Llandudwg, Glamorganshire. This Richard, as well as the other Turbervilles, or Turbils, in the counties of Glamorgan and Brecknock, are descendants of the first Payne Turberville, who came over with Richard Fitzhammon. He had for his share, of the spoils of Glamorgan, the castle and lordship of Coedty, near Bridge End.

Arms, chequy or and gules, a fesse erm.

Crest, an eagle displayed sable.

8. *Iestyn* = Iestyn ab Gwrgant, lord of Glamorgan. Payne, the first Turberville, of Coedty, married Asar, daughter of Iestyn. He afterwards sided with the Welsh, and besieged Fitzhamon in his castle of Cardiff, and forced him to abrogate the Norman laws which he had imposed upon his new subjects.

9. *teirban byd*, the three quarters of the globe. The fourth quarter, or America, was, probably, not known to the bard.



I vro ucho wlad Vrychan,  
A bro Frainc; mae'n braf ei ran. 12

Rhan plaid Lleisioniaid lles yw enwi rhyw;  
Rhan o Lyr Merini;  
Rhan o'r Peutyn, un a ni,  
Heddyw rhan dda yw rhei'ni. 16

At ryw y rhai'n, trwy yr hwyr,  
Y trov; cadwed Duw yr aer;  
Troi i'r gwin, a'r tri ryw gwyr,  
Troi ar gylch i'r tŵr a'r gaer. 20

Caer wen y barwn â'r cynn *beril*,  
Y sy gaer unvaint â llys Greinvil;  
Deudy o Gymmry, nid â'n is gil,  
Trysordy Herbart, Risiart Twrbil. 24

Ac yn Llandudwg, lle dwg *ystil*,  
Y gwin a berir o gan' baril;  
Ac yn bêr eisoes cael gwin Brossil,  
A *gwin*, oes oesoedd, *gwyn* o Sisil. 28

Bychan, bob wythnos, o Vwrdios vil  
O longau â gwin, neu leng gynnil;  
O vadau'n ymmod, riv deunawmil,  
Ac yn neg gyrva ugain carvil. 32

Blodeuyn Siancyn ni chais encil  
Er bwrw ynn sylltau, megys hau hil;

13. *Lleisioniaid*, the family of the Leysons. *Lleision*, a name frequent in Glamorganshire in former times: now *Leyson*, *Leysons*, *Leeson*, &c.

22. *Greinvil* = Grainville. The Grainvilles were of Neath castle. Richard de Grainville, or Greenefeld, and Constance his wife, founded the monastery of Neath. Richard de Grainville was one of the twelve Norman knights who accompanied Robert Fitzhammon, and assisted him in the conquest of Glamorganshire.

He received, in recompense for his services, the lordship of Neath. He was the ancestor of the Greenvilles, and the present Duke of Buckingham.

26. *Y gwin a berir*, "wine will be ordered."

27. *Brossil* = Brussels.

28. *gwin gwyn Sisil*, now Bronti wine.

*Sisil* = Sicily.

29. *Vwrdios* = Bwrdios; Bordeaux.

32. *carvil*, a dray horse.

Er bwrw berthogrwydd, val arglwydd Lil,  
A bwrw ein costiau val brenin Castil. 36

Pe rhodiwn i bob rhyd wen, neu bil,  
A'r divandvor a rodiai Vandvil;  
Ni chawn ddyn o Leyn hyd yn Nghaer Lil,  
Onid Risiart o natur *assil*. 40

Bwa Yw oesawg, a llavn Basil,  
A byw yw Risiart val coed Brasil;  
A byr yr ateb wyr o'r Owtil,  
A brau'n nghwynvan y bwrw anghenvil. 44

Ni thery addwyn, na thra eiddil,  
E dery wagwas drwy ei wegil;  
A'u bâr isod, val briwo *assil*,  
Y briw ambell; oni bai'r ymbil. 48

Ei air ev yngod yw'r evengyl,  
Ei wyr a genmyl i ar ugeinmil;  
Ei osawg perfaith a wisg *porfil*,  
O waed Ewropa y daw'r eppil. 52

Tyvu'n aeddved, dovi hen wŷddvil,  
A wna, â'i venwyr, val hen Vonvil;  
Tebygu'n cyrchu, o'r min i'r cil,  
A wna i Gadvan ac i Wdvil. 56

35. *arglwydd Lil*, John Talbot, lord Lisle, eldest son of John Talbot, (the famed earl of Shrewsbury), by Margaret, his second wife. He was created viscount Lisle, in 1451.

36. *Castil*, Old Castile, an extensive province in Spain.

38. *divandvor*=divantvor (di-man-môr), the illimitable sea.

*Vandvil*, sir John Mandeville, a celebrated early traveller, born at St. Alban's, about the beginning of the 14th century.

39. *Caer Lil*, the town Carlisle.

40. *assil*, perhaps, one who *assails*; an assailant.

41. *Bwa Yw oesawg, a llavn Basil*, "A bow of the lasting yew, and a Basel blade." *Basil*, Bale, the capital, and largest town of Bale, otherwise Basle, or Basel, one of the nineteen cantons of Switzerland.

42. *coed Brasil*=Brasil wood.

43. *Owtil*=Italy.

51. *porfil* purple.

53. *Vonvil*, William Bonville, created lord Bonville and Harington, in 1449.

56. *Wdvil*, Anthony Woodville, created lord Scales in right of his wife, in 1461.

Deued dâr o'r coed i Dewdrig hil,  
 A dau gan'-mwy no deugainmil ;  
 A dwy oes oesoedd i gadw Sisil,  
 I'r tarw byw arwawg o'r Twrbervil. 60

Twrbervil ! Twrbil â'r cant wart yn rhan,  
 Un o'r rhai'n oedd Gilbert ;  
 Oes ei dad, i osod art,  
 A ro Iesu i Risiart. 64

Rhisiart a roddai, mewn rhysedd, Siancyn,  
 Naw ryw lyn ar ei wledd ;  
 Aur i mi a ry, a medd ;  
 Aur a gwin i wyr Gwynedd. 68

57. *Tewdrig*, a saint in the fifth century, of royal descent. He was slain by the pagan Saxons in Gwent, where a church was erected on the spot of his martyrdom ; and from him called Merthyr Tewdrig.

## XXXI.

AWDL I OVYN LLEN GWELY I ANNES, ERCH SION,  
O GAERLLION AR WYSG.

---

THIS ode is well written, and it is an interesting one ; for the bard, having been cruelly robbed of his furniture at Chester, was compelled to apply to the generosity of his friends to assist him in refurnishing his house. He asks Annes to present him with a bed-curtain, and giving her, at the same time, a description of the one he wished to have, proceeds to say: "To Annes belongs a curtain on which are depicted every kind of trees in full leaves, and all manner of birds, besides lions and stags. Also the holy cross ; and the Blessed Virgin guarding over the twelve apostles. On it also are represented the saints, and the Saviour of the world. The blooming trefoil is not forgotten here ; neither are the French gardens, nor the branching forest. We have here also a representation of a shield, and of arrows ; and even of the head of the lately dreaded foe covered with pins. Yonder, we behold lions attacking their prey ; and here, we behold the weapons of Herbert. On that portion is depicted a leopard, and on this the lion of Edward. Above, the moon is seen surrounded with the stars. And in each corner of this beautiful curtain we behold four angels clothed in robes ; and in the centre of it a representation of God ; and also that of a man, a lion, an eagle, and an ox."

---

ANNES ! aeron Sion, vy *nghwrs* enwi hael,  
Hil Wateyn ab Henri ;  
Annes oedd, einioes iddi ;  
Annes hael, a henwais hi.

4

Hi yw'r bena'n Nghaerllion,  
Ei gwr sy benach nog un  
I roi, o'i gost, aur a gwin  
I wr o gerdd er ei gân.

8

XXXI. An ode to Annes, of Caerlioni, soliciting a bed curtain. The bard, it seems, had intended to settle in Chester, and with that view married a widow there ; but as it was against the consent of the inhabitants, it so exasperated the citizens,

that they, under some pretence or other, took from him all his household furniture, and insisted on his quitting the city. See Pennant's Tour in Wales ; and Yorke's Royal Tribes.

A ganwyv â'm daint, ac â'm genau,  
 I Annes a drig yn oes dreigiau,  
 Yn oes hen seren, neu vesurau pren;  
 Neu yn oes heulwen, neu nos olau. 12

Arver mac Annes o Baderau,  
 Arver ciliw ser â Llaswyrâu;  
 O'r galon y rhy'r Gwyliau am Sallwyr,  
 O law a synwyr, elusenau. 16

Da iawn yw Annes aur gadwynau,  
 Da ydyw Annes o'i diodau;  
 Da Annes am len denau o Arres,  
 Da Duw i Annes, daed ei doniau! 20

Mae Annes haeldeg lle'r oedd Degau,  
 Lle'r oedd Gwenhwyvar, a'i holl raddau;  
 Lle gwelid Enid ynau o asur,  
 Lle mae niur Arthur mawr ei wyrthiau. 24

Vy nghwyn wrth Annes, a'i charesau,  
 I Gaerlleon Gawr, yn gorllwyn gau,  
 Vy yspeiliaw draw dri Iau o'm mawredd,  
 Ac o'm holl annedd, ac o'm llenau; 28

Llen sydd i Annes yn llawn lluniau;  
 Llun gwiall, llun dail, a llun delwau;  
 Llun adar daiar, diau; llun llewod;  
 Llun y ceirw isod, a llun croesau; 32

Llun Mair, a'r deuddeg mewn cadeiriau;  
 Llun saint a Iesu, a llun santesau;  
 Llun meillion gwyrddion, llun garddau Frengig,  
 Llun brig y goedwig yn vagadau. 36

13. *Paderau*, Pater noster.

14. *Llaswyrâu*, Psallwyr: a *Psalter*: a Ritual.

15. *Sallwyr*, here persons who sing, or chant, the Psalms: also members of a choir; choristers. Both *Llaswyr* and *Sallwyr* are corruptions of Psallwyr.

19. *Arres* = Arras, a town of France, where fine line is manufactured. Arras is well known by its tapestry, called by the Italians, from the town, *Arrazi*.

21—23. *Tegau Euron*, *Gwenhwyvar*, and *Enid*. The three fair ladies of the court of Arthur.

Llun tarian penaeth, a llun saethau ;  
 Llun pen a ovid, yn llawn pinau ;  
 Llewod i orvod ; llun arvau HERBART ;  
 Llewpart, llew EDWART ; llun lleuadau ; 40

Llun pedwar angel, yn Nghornelau  
 Llen Annes heulwen, mewn casulau ;  
 Duw sy'n y canol bob diau, a'i glych ;  
 Gwr, Llew, Eryr, Ych sy gaerllaw'r iau. 44

Nos Ystwyll yr âv wrth ganwyllau  
 Wassel, gyda'm llen, o chav brenau ;  
 Hôli ac Ivi yn gwau, gwielyn  
 Celyn brig velyn, ac avalau. 48

Mair a gatwo'r Maer yn ei gaerau,  
 Mae Gruffydd yn rhoi ei vudd yn vau ;  
 Mae Annes hevyd i minnau'n rhoi da,  
 Mae'r gair drwy'r Ddena mor dda yw'r ddau. 52

Da Annes os da'r arglwyddesau,  
 Haelach yw Annes no'r iarllsesau ;  
 Annes yw'r santes, hwyntau islaw'r wawr,  
 Uwchlaw'r rhai'n wythawr y mae lithau. 56

Haelav yw Annes o'r Annesau,  
 Annes hael, merch Sion, dan inselau ;  
 Annes yw duges a dau wrth roi da,  
 Einioes i wra'r Annes orau. 60

Gorau un o'r gwyr gwra, Annes grair !  
 Gorau gwraig yw Annes ;  
 Gorau llen, val talcen tes,  
 Yw'r llen a ry llaw Annes. 64

39. *Herbart*, Herbert, earl of Pembroke.

40. *Edwart*, Edward IV.

43. *bob diau*=bob dydd.

49. *Maer*, the mayor of Caerlŷon.

50. *Gruffydd*, the name of Annes's husband.

*yn vau*=yn eiddov.

55. *islaw'r wawr*, &c. This pas-

sage may be in allusion to the astrology of the times. Annes is said to be like a star ascended above the horizon, or ascendant ; whilst all the other ladies (hwyntau) are said to be below the ascendant, and consequently not visible. The astrological scheme is divided into 12 houses—*six* above, and *six* below the horizon.



## XXXII.

## I SION AB DAVYDD, O VRO WYR.

THE bard opens his poem by apologizing to John ab David for not having paid him an earlier visit. His manner of reasoning is as follows: Over night he had made up his mind to go the following day; but when the morning came he found that he could not act up to his previous resolution. And so he went on for several nights and days; but at last he made up his mind; and, as it were, fearful of trusting to the following day, he said, "I will go this night, and be there before the dawn." Immediately upon this he compliments John ab David, and his wife, on their children; and alluding to Jacob, and to Hezron, as founders of families, he entertained a hope that one day John ab David would be known in the land of Gower as the founder of many a distinguished family. He concludes by speaking of their kindness and liberality; and promises that, in future, his poetry will sound forth in their praise only.

YVORY awn i vro Wyr,	
Ni aetham yno neithiwyd;	
Doe hwyliaw, da wehelyth,	
Trenydd; a pheunydd; a phyth.	4
Heddyw'dd av, Sion ab Davydd,	
Heno i'w dai cyn y dydd;	
Impyn yw'n mhob pen i Wyr,	
A'i goed ieuaine hyd awyr!	8
A gwinllan deg, yn llawn dail,	
Yw Mawd lle mae ei adail;	
Mab Davydd ddedydd, waywdwn;	
Sion o hil Lleision yw hwn;	12
Merch Vorgan, val y ganon,	
(Mawd) hil Gwilymiaid yw hon;	
Dau gymmhar ynt un gariad,	
Dewi, ac un Duw a'u gad.	16

XXXII. Addressed to John ab David, of Gower. He lived at Cil Vai, near Swansea. The four poems

which follow the present one are addressed to the son of the above John ab David.



Duw iddo a wnaeth deuddyn O lun Duw, i voddloni dyn ; Adda, Eva, 'n ddwy avel ; Ac o'r ddau hyn gwreiddiau hael.	20
<i>Mesydd</i> y Llys Newydd nèn Ydyw mesydd Damasen ; Duw yno a wnaeth dynion, Val y gwnaeth Veilig a Non ;	24
Sion, a Mawd rhosyn y medd, Yw'r ddau ben o wraidd bonedd ; O'r rhai'n y tyv rhieni Daiar Wyr bob dau, bob dri.	28
I Isag mab vu Iago, Ac o'i vab a'i wraig e vo ; Gwir vu'n Ngryw, ac Ebryw, gael Ymlaen Hesrom lanw Israel ;	32
O Sion a'i veibion o Vawd, Y daw pêr yn goed parawd ; O wniad y Llys Newydd Y lleinw Gŵyr val llwynau gwydd ;	36
O win y mae mwy no mwy Yn y tai ar lan Tawy ; Cornel lle cai <i>Llywelyn</i> <i>Goch y Dant</i> livant o lyn ;	40
Ar derm bywyd i ware Mae'n ei ol ym yno le ; Nid llai, yn Nghil Vai o vedd, Nâg o'r gwin nog eirw Gwynedd.	44

22. *mesydd Damasen*, "the acorns of Damascus." An epithet which the bard gives to the children of John ab David.

There was a tradition, not only among the Welsh bards, but also among the Mahometans, that the garden of Eden lay near Damascus. See W. Rae Wilson's *Travels in the Holy Land*, &c. vol. ii. p. 117. Jonas Mynyw, however, places Eden near mount Hebron, in Palestine. And accordingly he says,

Ev a wnaeth Panton  
Ar lawr Glyn Ebron,

A'i ddwyllaw gwynion,  
Gwiwhun Adda.

24. *Meilig*=Meilig ab Caw, a saint who lived in the sixth century. In the early part of his life he served in the wars under Arthur.

32. *Hesrom*, see *Numb.* xxvi. 21.

39. *Llywelyn Goch y Dant*, an itinerant miustrel. See *Dedri* in Dr. W. O. Pughe's Dict.

43. *Cil Vai*, a conical hill east of Swansea, where once was the residence of John ab David ; but of which there are now no remains left.

Estyner oes y dynion	
I'r gwan i roi'r gwin o Rôn ;	
Yno i'w bwrdd yn eu byw	
O ddieithrach dda wythryw ;	48
Bara un <i>sens</i> , ger bron swrn,	
O ael Ysbaen a Lisbwrn ;	
<i>Bwngernart</i> ddeugwart, bob ddau ;	
<i>Bwnswgr</i> wrth dderbyn seigiau ;	52
Un yw <i>oreis</i> , enw arall,	
Y <i>gwin</i> (o'r llong) <i>gwyn</i> yw'r llall ;	
Vy mendith vo'n eu trithai,	
Ac i'r tir dan gwr y tai ;	56
I'm pader ymleverydd,	
Duw, a Sion, a Mawd y sydd ;	
Pan ddarfo am gredo'r grog,	
Ym son, ac am oes Enog ;	60
Ni wnav â'm pen, a'm tavawd ;	
Sôn mwy ond am Sion a Mawd.	

46. *gwin o Rôn*, wine from the provinces of Beaujolais and Leonnais, formerly forming a part of the department of the Rhône.

51. *Bwngernart* (in the provincial language of Germany *Bunkartin*, and in that of France, *Bonne Chretienne*),

perhaps, Perry made from the pear called Bergamot.

52. *Bwnswgr*, (Bon Sucre,) perhaps Cider made from the Sugar Apple. The bard, in his merriment, calls the one (lines 53, 54,) orange, and the other Foreign white wine.

## XXXIII.

## I DAVYDD AB SION, O VRO WYR.

THE bard addresses David ab John as a young man who possessed a considerable store of knowledge; and as one who had an expressive countenance. He reminds him what pleasant time they had often spent together; and that he was resembling his father, and that more daily, in generosity; and, by way of compliment, calls him a scion from the stock of Hopkin, the generous. He then prays for his preservation. And next telling him that he partook of the good qualities of the Leysons as well as of those of Clement of Gwent, he mentions that he was strongly endowed with the four temperaments of the human constitution. After this, he alludes to his character as a warrior; and concludes by making honourable mention of both his parents.

Y GWR ieuanc val Greal,  
 A dawn Duw'n vlodau'n ei dâl.  
 Davydd rhoest win o devyrn,  
 Do, a gwaith heidiau o gyrn. 4  
 I dyviad Sion ab Davydd  
 Y troi, yn ol natur Nudd;  
 Un gwreiddyn o Hopcyn hael  
 Wyt o Wyr a'r tô urael; 8  
 Galawnt Davydd ab Gwilym,  
 Ab Siancyn o'r gwreiddyn grym.  
 Llaw Dduw i'th gyleh, llwydd yth gaid,  
 Lliw *sinobl* o'r Lleisioniaid. 12  
 Clement Gwent ar wystl gantai,  
 Angel o vab yn Nghil Vai.  
 Davydd, pedwar devnydd dyn  
 I'th wyneb vyth a ennyn; 16

XXXIII. Addressed to David ab John, of Cil Vai, near Swansea.

1. *Greal*, a Magazine. Originally the name of a celebrated book of Welsh stories, long since lost, highly extolled by different writers. David is here compared to a *Greal* in refer-

ence to his extensive knowledge of things.

12. *sinobl* = cinabar: red ore of quicksilver.

*Lliw sinobl*, of a ruddy, or fair, complexion.

15. *pedwar devnydd dyn*, "the

Yr hav yn benav y bydd, <i>Sanguinius</i> yn ei gynnydd. Dir iawn yw ei dri anian, Ovni dim a vo yn dân.	20
Y mae d'ovn yma Davydd Yn varwawr oll, neu Vôr Udd. Gras y sydd, val gwres y <i>Sieb</i> , Wedi ennyn dy wyneb ;	24
Brig sirig yn gyrs euraidd, Brig aur rhôd ar wybr a gaid. Gold daiar uwch gwlad Dwy-Went, Gwreichionen o gadben Gwent.	28
Etivedd dewredd hyd Wy, Etewyn Abertawy. Ti o'r <i>sir</i> yw'r tors euraidd, Neu'r ddraig goch yn ddeuwr y caid.	32
Cadwallan mab Gadvan gynt, A'u vilwyr a ryvelynt ; Yn ei ol Braint Hir ei nai, A'u luyddwyr a laddai ;	36
Braint Hir ar randir o Wyr Wyd o Sion da ei synwyr ; A nai ieuanc yn nwy-Went I'n llew wyt eurlliw o Went ;	40

four elements of which man is composed." Here the bard alludes to the old philosophy, current in his time, of the four elements, namely, earth, air, fire, and water. The four temperaments of the human frame were supposed to correspond with them ; and also with the twelve signs of the zodiac, four in each triplicity. Hence we have *sanguine* to correspond with air ; *choler* with fire ; *melancholy* with water ; and *phlegm* with earth.

22. *Môr Udd*, the name of the British sea, or king's channel.

23. *cal gweres y Sieb*, "like the animated glow, ardour, or fervency, conspicuous (in the countenances of buyers and sellers) at a market." *Sieb* (Sax. *ceap*, cattle, business or trade, a price, a pledge or pawn, a

selling, any thing that may be bought, or sold,) Cheap ; market : a purchase ; bargain. Cheapside, in London : also, a market town.

25. *Brig sirig*, &c. "It is the tinge of a rich silk dress appearing in golden streaks." *Sirig* (Sericum, byssus. Gr. *σηρικόν*. Dr. Davies's Dict.), Seric cloth : a silken, or perhaps, a cotton, or muslin garment. The Seres were celebrated for their fine transparent cloth, the materials for which, as the ancients relate, they used to comb from trees. Hence it is uncertain what it was, whether cotton, or silk.

33. *Cadwallan* = Cadwallon ab Cadvan. See *Camb. Biog.*

36. *Braint Hir*, the nephew of Cadwallon. See *Cumb. Biog.*

Bwa a saeth Davydd ab Sion	
Wyd i aros y dewrion ;	
Weithiau'n gled dau'r arglwyddi	
Weithiau'n oen yn ein iaith ni ;	44
Ni vaddeui vi ddwyawr,	
Ac nid âi o'r gwindy awr.	
Ni vaddeuav di Ddavydd,	
Er naw o Ivor a Nudd ;	48
Gorau ugain o'r gwragedd	
Yw dy vam am ddiawd vedd.	
Gorau dau a gâr dewin	
Yw dy dad, a diawd win ;	52
Gorau dithau, yn ngwisg urael,	
Ond y rhai'n sydd yn dra hael.	
Dy haelder, dy wychder da,	
Dy arver yn y dyrva ;	56
Dy arian, nid rhaid eiriol,	
Dy aur a wna d'air yn ol.	
Dy fyniant yn voliant vydd	
I dir Gŵyr yn dragywydd.	60

49—52. *Gorau ugain*, &c. From the circumstance of the bard not alluding here to David ab John's having a wife, whilst mentioning his father and mother; it has been thought,

that at the time when this poem was written, he was still unmarried.

51. *dewin*=bardd; prophwyd.

57. *eiriol*=deisyv.

## XXXIV.

## I DAVYDD AB SION, O VRO WYR.

THIS ode opens with an acknowledgment of the many acts of kindness our bard had experienced at the hands of David ab John. Then alluding to the contest and triumph of Taliesin at the court of Maelgwn Gwynedd, he boasts of his ability to retain, against every opposition, the high honour he had in being the chief bard of David ab John. He next attributes to his patron the gentleness of a lamb towards the aged, the good, and the deserving; but paints him terrible as death against the treacherous and those who acted unjustly. He likens him to wild-fire, in overcoming the worthless and the vicious; but with respect to the weak, and the unprotected, he says that he was their gold, and their life. After this, he mentions that David ab John was courted by all ranks in society. Then, after describing him in his character of a warrior, he concludes by eulogizing his goodness and kindheartedness, both of which, he says, he inherited from his father.

DAVYDD ab Sion rydd, o wreiddyn divalech,  
Ab Davydd ab Hopcyn;  
Davydd *clared* a ovyn;  
Dwy wlad a borthid a'i lyn. 4

Ei vrethyn, a'i lyn, am lais, hil Gwilym!  
A roes ym, nis rhoi Sais;  
Ei sidan ev a gevais;  
Ei *ddwbled* velved am v'ais. 8

Aur a velved ar vilvyrd,dd,  
A ry'n braf ar un brivfordd;  
Aur ungost, er awengerdd,  
A bair ev ar ei brivardd. 12

Ei brivardd ydwyv od ymbrowwn, val  
Un o veirdd llys Maelgwn;

XXXIV. An ode to the same David ab John, of Cil Vai, near Swansea.

14. *Maelgwn* = Maelgwn Gwynedd, king of the Cambrian Britons after the death of Arthur. He was

elected to the throne about the year 546; and died, about the year 560, of an epidemic called *y Faid Velen*, or yellow plague, which at that time was very prevalent in Wales.



Yn iarll darogan a wn  
Hil y gwr hael a garwn. 16

Oen yw i garu yr hen gwirion,  
Angeu yw hevyd i'r anghyvion ;  
Gwalldan yw'n dovi rhai gwylltion diriaid,  
Aur yw, ac enaid, i rai gweinion. 20

Nid gwell ysgwier, myn llyvr Sieron !  
Un haid o Ddugiaid a'u swyddogion ;  
Neu chweugain o varchogion, neu d'wysog  
Neu iarll â'i osog nog ŵyr Lleision. 24

A vu un mor hael hyd vin môr Rhôn ?  
Na vu ond Rhydderch, vaint ei roddion ;  
A vu un mor deg o Von i Gaer Dyv,  
Oni vu Selyv, neu Absalon ? 28

A gad un mor ddewr ei ergydion ?  
Na chad o'r dengwlad, ond milwyr Don.  
A gad un mor ddoeth o goed union Gwent,  
Na dau is *el'ment*, onid Salmon ? 32

Pob gradd a'i govyn val Tre Vaddon,  
Graddau o gerddau'n ngynau gwyrddion ;  
Graddau heb gerddau, 'm gweryddon ! yw'r llaill ;  
A graddau eraill o gerddorion. 36

Rhan o bob addysg, rhai'n bibyddion,  
Weithiau rhai eraill yn grythorion ;  
Eraill yn delynorion, ŵyl uchel ;  
Rhai a â lle'dd êl ; eraill a ddôn.' 40

Dyw Llun, a dyw Mawrth, trwy goed llinon ;  
Dyw Mercher, dyw Iau, drwy wlad Meirchion ;

33. *Tre Vaddon*, the town of Bath.

34. *'u ngynau* = mewn gynau.

35. *'m gweryddon !* = ym gwyr-yvon !

42. *drwy wlad Meirchion*, "through Cumberland." Meirchion Gul was a

chieftain of the Britons of Cumbria.

He lived about the beginning of the fifth century. He was the grandfather of Urien Rheged, and of Llywarch Hen.



Gwener a Sadwrn, val y ganon vul ;  
Ato'r av ddyw Sul, tra veiddwy' sôn. 44

Pob blwyddyn yr âv drwy'r briv avon,  
Pob tymhor, drwy'r môr, o dir Meirion ;  
Pob mis o'r wyth dymhor y don', pob trimis ;  
Pob wythnos o'r mis i Sandwis Sion. 48

Ev a wŷr Davydd, â'r gwayw rhuddon,  
Vwrw chwe gelyn ar ei veirch gwelwon ;  
Ev a dyr gweywyr gwywon, yn arail ;  
Evo a gynail arvau gwynion. 52

Ev yw'r ddâr a gâr wyr y goron,  
Ev a gâr y ddâr lu o ddewrion ;  
Ev yw'r pâr marwar yn Mon, y vaner ;  
Ev a y'r niver i Vôr Neivion. 56

Vy mendith i'r blaidd santaidd o Sion,  
Vy meistr yw Davydd, ddewis hydd Sion ;  
Vy hydd, esilltydd Sion, y sy drahael ;  
Vy llygad ar v'ael ! os anhael Sion. 60

Ev a rydd yn Ngŵyr, wrth synwyr, Sion ;  
Ev a roes ei aur a'i vara, Sion !  
Ev Ddavydd y sydd val Sion am ariant  
Ev yw Dewi sant o Vawd a Sion. 64

## XXXV.

AWDL I DAVYDD AB SION, O VRO WYR, PAN OEDD  
WEDI MYNED I RUVAIN.

THE bard, in this ode, records the departure of David ab John on a pilgrimage to Rome, who went, as a palmer, with a walking stick in his hand, and also a key. The country, he says, lamented his absence. The bard himself appears to be altogether inconsolable on account of his departure. And from what he says, (in line 29,) it seems that David ab John was commissioned to bring home indulgences for several of his friends. And we are informed that offerings upon the altar, for his safe return, had been solemnly given at the preceding vespers by his anxious mother, and by the bard himself.

AETH synwyr tir Gŵyr i geurydd y Pab,  
Hebog Sion ab Davydd;  
Adre doed yn dra dedwydd,  
Ganto'r hav âg enaid rhydd. 4

Yn ieuanc yr aeth o'r Llys Newydd; baun  
A fôn big, ac allwydd;  
A dyvod a wnel Davydd  
Hyd tir ei dad, cyn tri dydd. 8

Cymmru'n hiraethu am yr hydd, o bryd  
Brodyr a chwiorydd;  
Cerddorion, hyd Von vynydd;  
Dros hwn yn pryderu sydd. 12

Wrth wŷn Mawd, y fawd dda ei fydd, a'r saint;  
Wrth wŷn Sion yn drydydd;  
Wrth wŷn pob overddyn vydd  
Ei dro ev drwy'r holl drevydd. 16

XXXV. An ode to the same David ab John, of Cil Vai, near Swansea, after his departure for Rome.

13. *Wrth wŷn Mawd*, &c. "agreeable to the wish of Maud."

Ev aeth i Ruvain, eryr o'r Dwyrain,  
 A Duw'n ei arwain Edwin orŵyr;  
 Ydd wyv yni ddêl heb vedd, a heb vêl;  
 Heb gafael *canel* wrth oleu eŵyr. 20

Heb win yn y byd, heb gartrev hevyd;  
 Heb einioes ennyd, heb un synwyr;  
 Gwell ym, a'i galled, wyliau ei weled;  
 Nog i wr o Gred weled ei ŵyr. 24

Troi natur eos yn nydd, ac yn nos,  
 Yn agos i *glos* Vernagl a ŵyr;  
 Plygain, dwyrain dawn, anterth, aberth iawn;  
 A boreu a nawn, a phyrnawn hwyr. 28

Cwmpas *Ystasiwn* a dry val yn drwn,  
 Cael *pardwn* memrwn i dalm o wyr;  
 Yn Rhuvain rhivaw dros win a chiniaw;  
 Ac yno lleisiaw ŵyth-gan' Llaswyr. 32

Dan un, hollsaint nev oll a'i nertha ev,  
 A ninnau'n un llev arnyn' yn llwyr;  
 Dwyn ofrwm dinam (ei vardd ev, a'i vam)  
 I Dduw a wnaetham ddoe a neithiwyr. 36

I edrych adrev bid ei wyneb ev,  
 O drev Rhuvain grev hyd ar Gaer Wyr;  
 Dros vynydd Mynau, glân Rhin a'i glynau,  
 Drwy vlaenau'r Deau wlad, hyd vro Wyr. 40

24. *Nog i wr ŵyr*. The bard alludes here to the adage,  
 Ni eherir yn llwyr  
 Oni ddelo yr ŵyr.

25. *Yn agos i glos Vernagl*, "near St. Veronica's shrine." *Vernagle*, Vernicle: St. Veronica's napkin, which is reported, by the papists, to have an impression of Christ's face upon it, by his wiping his face upon it as he was carrying the cross.

28. *pyrnawn* = prydawn.

29. *Ystasiwn* = station, (among Roman catholics), a church, or chapel, appropriated to pray in, and gain indulgences.

33. *Caer Wyr*, Swansea, the fortress, or key, of Gower land: now *Abertawy*.

39. *Dros vynydd Mynau*, &c. "Over the Alps, and along the banks and the valleys of the Rhine."

## XXXVI.

## I DAVYDD AB SION, O VRO WYR.

David ab John, from the land of Gower, is surely a vine, in that he causes his wine to flow as from a fountain in perennial streams, that reach even to the isle of Mona. In return, says the bard, for such generosity, the bards of Mona celebrate his praises in endless songs. And as the ox submits himself to the yoke, so, he says, the bards willingly engage themselves in the service of David ab John. The bard, after this, indulges himself in forming triads, in each of which an honourable mention is made of his patron. He next mentions his wife, and speaks of her as being one of the very best of women, and the ode ends in her praise, and that of her husband.

DAVYDD sydd winwydd ab Sion, o dir Gŵyr;  
I droi'r gwin yn fynnon;  
Davydd, megys dwy avon,  
A'i dyry vyth hyd ar Von.

4

Yn Mon Benmynydd hevyd, val had vydd,  
O odlau odlydd ddwyvil i Ddavydd;  
Rhiv gwellt yr ellydd, a'r gwawn o'r gweunydd;  
Rhiv gwlith rhos, a gwlydd, oedd ei ovn Ddavydd.

8

Ych i'r iau echŵydd oedd ddov, oedd uvydd,  
Beirddion y byrddydd oedd ddov i Ddavydd;  
*Parcer*, rhag cerydd, a gau ynghylch gwydd;  
Cau ynghylch cywydd ydd wyv i Ddavydd.

12

Bronvraith a ieithydd, hudawl ehedydd,  
Eaws dragywydd vyddav i Ddavydd;  
Tri man trwy'r mynydd a gyrch awenydd;  
Tir havawg, trevydd, teveirn, at Davydd.

16

XXXVI. An ode addressed to the same David ab John, of Cil Vai, near Swansea. This ode was written after his return from Rome; and after his marriage with Gwenllian, daughter of Jenkin ab Owain.

11. *Parcer*=parker; the keeper

of a park. The bard applies to himself the term *parker* by a simile.

15. *Tri man*—a *gyrch awenydd*, three places frequented by poets: namely, a common, towns, and public-houses.

Tri pheth (trwy y fydd) arwawg, ni ddervydd ;  
 Crwys yr eglwysydd, Teivi, clod Davydd ;  
 Tri hael, mal tri hydd, yn saint ynn y sydd ;  
 Rhydderch ben rhoddydd ; Ivor, a Davydd. 20

Tri dewrion llonydd, Geraint a Gweirydd ;  
 O'r tridyn trydydd ydyw ev Davydd ;  
 Tri serchawg dolydd a gawn un gynnydd ;  
 Sev, Troilus, Ovydd, (deuvab) a Davydd. 24

Deudir i'r dledwydd a dyw i'n dovydd ;  
 Deulanw hyd lenydd,—Dyvi, gwin Davydd ;  
 Dwywlad ardelydd, yn llaw'n penllywydd,  
 Dau mor aml â'r dydd,—Dyvi, mêdd Davydd. 28

Davydd ab Sion Diviau y cenais  
 Pum can' awdl o odlau ;  
 A chan' cywydd, ddydd neu ddau,  
 I'w rhoi i'r gwr a'r wraig orau. 32

Gorau merch a wisg aur a main, am win ;  
 Merch Siancyn ab Owain ;  
 Gorau dewr, o gŵr Dwyrain,  
 Yw gwr y verch gywir vain. 36

Hir vo oes meinir, Iesu ! *Amen* ;  
 Hir o ddaioni yw chwaer Ddwynwen ;  
 Hael yw Gwenllïan, heulwen o Einion ;  
 Hon yw gras gweinïon Gŵyr, Isgenen. 40

17. *Tri pheth*—*ni ddervydd*, three lasting things : namely, the church cross, the river Teivi, and the praise of David ab John.

19. *Tri hael*, the three generous ones : namely, Rhydderch, Ivor, and David ab John.

21. *Tri dewrion llonydd*, the three valorous and quiet ones ; namely, Geraint, Gweirydd, and David ab John.

23. *Tri serchawg*, the three humorous men ; namely, Troilus, Ovid,

and David ab John.

29. *Diviau* = dydd Iau.

40. *Hon yw gras gweinïon*, &c. Here the bard gives Gwenllïan, charitable as she might be, enough of necessitous persons to relieve ; that is, as many as inhabited from the southern sea coast of Gower, northward of the river Towy, an extent of about thirty miles.

*Isgenen* = Is Cenen, a district in Caermarthenshire, south of Llandeilo Vawr.

Ond dedwydd i vardd hardd a vo hen  
 Weled Nadolig digenvigen ;  
 Wreigddda ; a gwrda, *gwarden* gwyr arvawg ;  
 Ac yn alluawg, ac yn llawen ? 44

Evo yn haelav dan furvaven ;  
 Hithau sy orau dan y seren ;  
 Yntau'n rhoi gynau, 'm Gwynen ! a gwleddau ;  
 Hithau y gwyliau yn deg ei gwên. 48

Davydd â'i gywydd o vrig awen,  
 Heb haiach vocsach yw, ail Vacsen ;  
 Ail yw Gwenllian Elen verch Eudav ;  
 I lenwi'r gauav lyn o'r Gien. 52

Geiriau a rov mewn ysgriven,  
 Tra vo gwir, a thir, a llythyren ;  
 Hyd y try obry wybren dros vrynau ;  
 Hyd y bo geiriau mewn llyvrau llên. 56

Tiriawg yw Davydd val caterwen ;  
 Tad Gŵyr a'i synwyr, val glas ònen ;  
 Tëyrn i gedyrn, gaden' ran iddo ;  
 Teilo a'i noddo a'i winwydden. 60

47. *Gwynen*, a female saint whose history is not known. *Llan Wynen*, in Cardiganshire, is dedicated to her.

50. *ail Vacsen* = Maxen Wledig. See *Camb. Biog.*

51. *Elen verch Eudav*, "Ellen, the daughter of Eudav." Ellen married Maxen Wledig.

*Eudav*, or Octavius, son of Caradog ab Bran. See *Camb. Biog.*

52. *llyn o'r Gien*, a beverage from Guienne : French wine.

*Gien* = Guienne : the province of Guienne in France.

59. *gaden* = gadawent.



## XXXVII.

## I HOPCYN AB SION.

THE bard addresses Hopkin ab John by first complimenting him on his princely mansion, which is said to be, in point of extent, like that of Derllys. He then compliments him on his hospitality, and on his means to support so large an establishment. He speaks of him as being a good performer on the harp—an excellent singer of *Pennillion*—and a lover of poetry. He also speaks of him as a person having great influence, and possessing extensive patrimony.

GORAU llys ger llaw, o wŷdd,	
Es nawoes, yw'r Llys Newydd ;	
Llys Sion val Derllys, neu vwy ;	
Lle tŷyrn gerllaw Tawy.	4
Llys Mawd i roi'r wirawd win,	
Lle ydyw'r ieirll o Edwin ;	
Llys ym mysŷg llysiau a medd,	
Llys gwin, lle seigiau unwedd.	8
<i>Hopcyn</i> a ry'r llyn o'r llys,	
<i>Ab Sion</i> goron Hen Gyrys.	
Arver Hopcyn govyn gwin,	
A'i brynu val y brenin ;	12
Canu telyn, Hopcyn hael,	
A'i chyweirio'n gloch urael ;	
Canu pennill, myn Cynin !	
Can' gainc ; peri cywain gwin ;	16

XXXVII. Addressed to Hopkin ab John, of Llys Newydd, on the banks of the Tawy.

3. *Derllys*, or *Cwrt Derllys*, now a farm-house, about three miles to the north of the high road from Caermarthen to St. Clears. It is the property of James Williams, esq. of Edwinsford.

10. *Hen Gyrys*, or as he is mostly

called, *Yr Hen Gyrys o Ial*, is supposed to have flourished about the middle of the 11th century. He was one of those who collected the proverbs and maxims of the ancient Britons ; and was also the composer of many himself. Hopkin ab John, it seems, was himself in this particular like him.



Govyn ynn ar gevn anerch, Achoedd Mai, a chywydd merch, Dwrn Hopcyn, yn y glyn glas, Yw un dwrn ar y deyrnas ;	20
Unbys aur Hopcyn ab Sion A bwysa'r Pab a'i weision. Llyn o'r gwinllanau i'r gwyr, Llaw Hopcyn oll a'i hebgyr ;	24
Iddaw v'aeth dyweddi valch, Yn dda uvydd yn ddivalch ; Duw a'i rhoes i gadw ei rhan I wyr unwaith o Wernan.	28
I Hopcyn, er hyn, y rhawg Ydd a gwledydd goludawg ; Gwlad Geredig, a Chadell ; Gŵyr ; a sir Gaer y sy well.	32
Iddaw y mae, arglwydd <i>mén</i> , Daiar Llanbedr oll unben. Saint Clêr, dan ei vaner vo, A swyddau Cemais iddo ;	36
Bro Went, Morganwg o'i bron, Bro Wyr, ac Aber Aeron. Bid arglwydd ar bedeirgwlad, Bywyd iarll i vab ei dad ;	40
Ei geraint i'm gwrantu i, Argoel oedd, sydd arglwyddi ; Rhai'n varchogion o'r bonedd, Rhai'n ieirll o'r rhei'ny, un wedd ;	44

28. *Gwernan*=Gwernmant, Alderbrook Hall, in Cardiganshire.

31. *Gwlad Geredig*, the land of Ceredig; Cardiganshire: *swydd Ceredigion*. Ceredig was the son of Cunedda. He was instrumental, with his brothers, in dislodging the Irish from North Wales, in the middle of the fifth century. He had Tyno Coch for his services, and from him called Ceredigion.

32. *Sir Gaer*=Caermarthenshire.

33. *arglwydd mén*=mesne-lord; a

lord of a manor that holds of a superior lord.

34. *Llanbedr*=Lampeter, in Cardiganshire. Now the seat of St. David's college, or Bangor Dewi.

35. *Saint Clêr*=Saint Clears, a village in Caermarthenshire.

36. *Cemais*, a village in Montgomeryshire.

38. *Aber Aeron*, a small, but flourishing town on the sea-coast, in Cardiganshire.

Rhai'n ben ar Loegr es enyd,  
 Rhai'n meddu ar Gymmru i gyd.  
 Can' hav bid Hopcyn ei hun  
 Swyddawg o Ustus iddyn';  
 Gorau un swyddawg ar Wyr  
 Oedd Sion o'i dda, a'i synwyr;  
 Ac o Wyr i Dre Garon  
 Y bo swydd Hopcyn ab Sion;  
 Ac yr wyv yn erchi i'r grog  
 Roi oes Addav i'r swyddog.

48

52

51. *Tre Garon*, a village in Cardiganshire.

## XXXVIII.

## I SION HAVART, O BONT WILYM.

HAVARD is admired for his boldness in riding—for his valour—and his dexterity in parrying off the blows of an antagonist—and also for his superior skill in the management of the spear, or the lance. His deeds, it is said, are celebrated in song, on the crooth, and on the harp; with the flute, and on the organ. The bard, after this, indulges himself in a mystic strain, and relates that “when the spotted cat shall appear on the banks of the river Ieithon—and when the Irish shall have landed in the isle of Anglesea—and when there shall be a mighty struggle for the crown of England—then will Havard, as a warrior, have to act a conspicuous part, and be prominent in the scene of action.” The bard then passes an encomium on the mansions of Havard; and wishes the occupier to be well supplied with cavalry, and military guard. He concludes by alluding to the beautiful symmetry of Havard’s countenance, and to the moral qualifications which adorned his mind and actions.

Sion hyvedr ar varch, Sion Havart alawnt;  
 Sion ab Wilym Havart;  
 Sion hevyd ŵyr Sion Havart,  
 Sion a dŷr *habrsiwn* â dart. 4

Sion Havart ieuanc; Sion! yvais win gwr  
 Sy’n guras Einion Sais;  
 Sion ei *honsel* a welais,  
 Sion yw ni wna dra, neu drais. 8

XXXVIII. An ode addressed to John Havard, of Pont Wilym, near Brecknock. The Havards are descended from sir Walter Havard, of Normandy, who accompanied Bernard Newmarch. He had for his services the manor of Pont Wilym. Pont Wilym, the mansion where the Havards first settled, is now only a farm-house, about one mile northward of the priory of Brecknock. See the family pedigree in Jones’s

History of Brecknockshire, vol. ii. pp. 125—132.

Arms, argent a bull’s head cabossed between three mullets sable.

Crest, a bull’s head as on the arms.

4. *Sion a dŷr habrsiwn â dart*, “John will dexterously pierce with his dart the habergeon of his foe.”

6. *Sy’n guras Einion Sais*: this passage alludes to the Havards being allied by marriage to the descendants of Einion Sais.

Pond Sion Absalon a roes ym roddion ?  
 Pendragon llinon llym ;  
 Pond da y gwreiddia mewn grym ?  
 Pond da alarch Pont Wilym ? 12

Pond Gwilym oedd rym ei gledd a'i rôn ?  
 Pond ei rym Gwilym vu'n troi gâlôn ?  
 Pond arab ei vab wrth holl veibion hyd ?  
 Pond wrth ei ŵryd y troes hyd Sion ? 16

Pa wraidd i Wilym, imp urddolion ?  
 Pa imp a curir ? pump o'i ŵyrion  
 Pwy is y Bânau'n hapusion hwyntau ?  
 Pwy uwch y Bânau, ond selau Sion ? 20

Pob cerdd a genir yn deg dirion,  
 Pob crwth a thelyn, Sulgwyn, i Sion ;  
 Prydydd â'i gywydd, val Gwion vychan,  
 Pibau ac organ seinian' i Sion. 24

Peredur ar ddur, wrth Iwerddon ;  
 Pwy mwy biau dysg, ond pummeib Don ?  
 Pond wythwyr vu'r gwyr gwirion wrth Gadell ?  
 Pa wyth y sy well ? pa waeth yw Sion ? 28

Pan ddêl y gath vraith i lan Ieithon ;  
 Pan vo'r Gwyddelod yn margod Mon ;  
 Pan vo ymguro am Goron wrawl ;  
 Pan vo iso hawl penav yw Sion. 32

Pwy yw'r haelav yn puraw holion ?  
 Pwy yw rheolwr pob rhai haelion ?  
 Pwy yw undyn gwyn âg union avel ?  
 Pwy yw un-dis hael ? pwy onid Sion ? 36

19. *Bânau*=Caerbânau, now corruptly called *Benni*, situated on an eminence, about half a mile south-east of the confluence of the Eskir into the Usk.

23. *Gwion vychan*, Gwion Bach, the original name of Taliesin.

36. *un-dis*, the luckiest throw upon the dice.

*Pawls* y galwant plasau gloÿwon,  
 Plasau'r Havardiaid unblaid y dôn';  
 Pwy orau'n blasau cribleision wyneb,  
 Palisau y Sieb; ond plasau Sion? 40

Pedr ben borthor yr holl borthorion,  
 Pyrth nev nis cau ev achos cyvion;  
 Pa rai gauai â gwywon wial,  
 Parth ar Deau, sail pyrth ar dai Sion? 44

Pedwarmarch, seithmarch wrth gyvrwy Sion;  
 Pedwarcant, seithgant dan vaner Sion;  
 Pedwargwart, seithgwart vo i Sion Havart,  
 Pedwar gwayw, yswayw Pedrog, i Sion. 48

Pryd Adda a Seth priodawdd Sion;  
 Pryd Nyv a Selyv a roed i Sion;  
 Pryd dau o *Sande*, i Sion, *Bryd Angel*;  
 Pryd Asa, a sel Paradwys i Sion. 52

Pum llyvr Moesen sydd yn awen Sion;  
 Pum llawenydd Mair dros ungair Sion;  
 Pum oes byd sy oes i Sion, hyd orwyr;  
 Pwy'r pumnyn a ŵyr pum' synwyr Sion? 56

37. *Powls*, the old St. Paul's in London: an epithet for a building, or mansion, of note.

40. *Palisau*. This term, among the Welsh, is applied to a *pallisade* kind of a partition between apartments. It was made of an inch board, and a two-inch board grooved together, and placed alternately in a perpendicular position. In old mansions a *palis* commonly separated the kitchen from the bedchambers, or other rooms, on the ground floor. The long oak kitchen table ran parallel with the *palis*. There was what was called '*spûr*' at each end of the *palis*, for to place upon it the spare victuals;—*Y spâr ar ben y 'spûr*. It is said, in Wynn's history of the Gwydir family, that when Ieuan ab Robert sat at table, his

head reached to the top of the '*spûr*'.

48. *Pedrog* = Pedrogl, surnamed Paladrddellt, or of the shivered shaft, who in the former part of his life was a warrior, and afterwards betook himself to a monastic life. He lived in the sixth century.

50. *Nyv*, a lady celebrated for her beauty, in the sixth century.

51. *Sandde Bryd Angel*, Sandde with the countenance of an angel, son of Llywarch Hen, a chieftain who lived in the sixth century. Sandde was so beautiful that when he made his escape, at the battle of Camlan, a passage was opened for him, without a hostile hand being raised up, as every one imagined that he was an angel.

52. *Asa* = Asav, a saint who lived in the sixth century. See Camb. Biog.

## XXXIX.

I OVYN DWY VUWCH I DDWY WRAIG, O VAELIENYDD.

THE bard, it appears, wanted two milch cows; and knowing that the *awen* possessed great power in eliciting a favour, he applied to the generosity of two wealthy ladies of Maelienydd. The name of one of them was Annes Awbrey, and the name of the other Isabella Vaughan. He mentions Annes as being a descendant of Gwalter Sais and Moreiddig Warwyn; and Isabella as a descendant of Ivor Hael and Madock Tanner. The husband of Annes is stated to be Howell ab Rhydderch; and Isabella's husband is represented to be John ab Philpot. The bard, reluctant to mention in plain language what he wanted, adopts a figurative style to describe the objects of his wish. He therefore solicits them to present him with two barrels; not barrels made of wood; but which had animal life in them, and could graze. He desires also that they may be, in colour, like that of Weobley ale; that is, that the colour of the kine required should be of a fine nut-brown ale. He next speaks of the medicinal virtues of the drink which these barrels would afford him. And concludes by acknowledging the many and great obligations he was already indebted to them, and that he never appealed in vain to their generosity.

Y DDWY wragedd rywiogach  
 No dwy yn yw; a Duw yn vach.  
 Annes Awbre ddiweniaith,  
 Verch Morgan winllan cin iaith. 4  
*Is'bel* verch Rhys uchelwaed,  
*Vychan* Is Mynydd, dydd daed.  
 Da ydych, ddwy lywy'r wlad!  
 A da ydyw eich deudad. 8  
 Uwch o bwne hwdiwech y bêl,  
 Uwch dwy âch no choed uchel.  
 E dyv, Annes! dy vonedd  
 O Awbre, mor bur a medd; 12  
 O Wallter Sais, Rhosser hŷn,  
 O geirw Moreiddig Warwyn.

XXXIX. Addressed to two married ladies of Maelienydd, in Radnorshire, asking them for two milch cows as a present.  
 2. *yn each*, a pledge; a security



Dy âch, Is'bel ! uchel oedd,	
A'i lle uwch yr holl achoedd ;	16
Ach o Ivor uchaviaeth,	
Ach o'r Tanwr, gwr nid gwaeth.	
Dwywlad, rhan eich hen dylwyth,	
Ydyw'ch dwy wlad, a'ch dau lwyth ;	20
Dwy lan Gwy hyd Vynwy vawr,	
A dwy Elvael adeilvawr.	
A'ch dau briod a ddodir,	
Ymlaen dau, hyd Emlyn dir ;	24
Hywel rwydd, o hil Rydderch,	
Aed i Sion ab Philpot serch.	
Ni w'ravun un o'ch dau wr	
I'wch urddaw bardd, a cherddwr ;	28
Nid wyv i'n erchi i neb	
Da ; onid i'ch dau wyneb :	
Dwy varil val da Verwyn	
Heb lai liw no Gweble llyn ;	32
Nid prenau valirau'r iaith,	
Barilau a bawr eilwaith ;	
Ydd wyv yn ordeiniaw i'r ddwy	
Dy o wair a dau aerwy.	36
Llyna ddwy winllan ddiwael,	
A'u llyn a vydd oll yn vael ;	
A'r llyn burwyn y bydd,	
Os gwyn yw'r <i>Gasgwin</i> newydd.	40
Ac yr oedd brig arwyddion	
Ar y ddwy, mal ar dda Mon ;	
Bwaaau, yn gyrrn bual,	
A noded yn eu dau dâl.	44
Wythdroed o'r unoed a red,	
O waith <i>physig</i> wyth fosed ;	
Cynneddv, i iachâu kannyn,	
Arall a oedd ar y llyn.	48

31. *da Verwyn*=da Berwyn, that is, squat, short-legged kine. *Berwyn*, the name of a range of mountains, on the east of the vale of Edeyrnion, in Merionethshire.

32. *Gweble*, Weobley, a market

town, in Herefordshire. It was once much noted for the excellence of its ale.

46. *wyth fosed* ; here the eight streams which would flow from the eight udders.

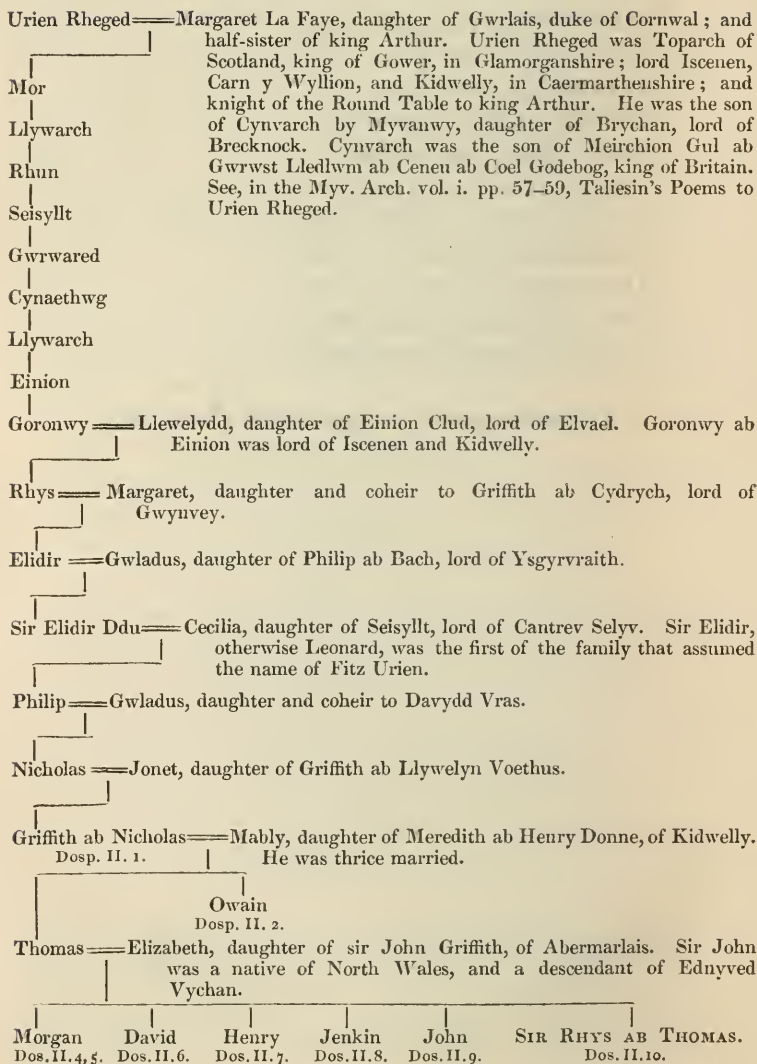


Ni phair, cyn pryd Oferen,  
 Na gwaew i'm pais, nag i'm pen ;  
 Ni'm gwna'n vrwysg, dyn govrwysg gwâr,  
 Nag yn veddw, nag yn vyddar. 52  
 Ev a dÿn, pan wnelwyv daith,  
 O'r drem y benddar ymaith ;  
 Evo a wella v'awen,  
 Ac ydyw'r pwynt i gadw'r pen. 56  
 Chwithau'ch dwy, petai vwy v'arch,  
 O rywdda a rydd ddwyarch ;  
 Genych tra dyvo gwinwydd,  
 Gwin a gav o egin gwÿdd. 60  
 Genyv, Is'bel ! ac Annes !  
 Y mae'ch llyn a mwy o'ch lles ;  
 I'wch eich dwy, chwi a'ch deuwr,  
 Oedran dwy o'r derw'n y dwr ; 64  
 I'm y buch da'n ddiwahardd,  
 I'wch y bo bendith eich bardd.

53. *Penddar*=pendro, a vertigo, a giddiness in the head.

## TYLWYTH YSTRAD TYWI.

## THE VALE OF TOWY FAMILY.



# G W A I T H

## LEWIS GLYN COTHI.

### DOSPARTH II.

#### TYLWYTH YSTRAD TYWI.

##### I.

AWDL I GRUFYDD AB NICOLAS, O DRE NEWYDD.

THE bard undertakes to celebrate the praises of Griffith ab Nicholas in strains similar to those of Adda Vras, and the two Merlins. He mentions his descent from Urien Rheged—alludes to his mustering an armed force—speaks of the extensive influence which he possessed both in South and North Wales—and prays the whole nation to rally round his banner. He styles him the eagle of Caermarthen;—and observes that had king Arthur been then living he would have joined his forces to those of the descendant of Elidir.

GWIN llawn gwir a iawn, llyna'r gras a gawn,  
Y gan vab NICOLAS;

I. An ode addressed to Griffith ab Nicholas of Newton, near Llandeilo Vawr. Arms: argent, a chevron between three ravens sable. Griffith was an only son of Nicholas ab Philip, by Jonet, daughter of Llywelyn Voethus. He was thrice married, and had a numerous issue by all his wives. His first wife was Mably, daughter of Meredith ab Henry Donne, of Kidwelly; his second was a daughter of sir John Perrott, of Pembroke-shire; and his third Jane, daughter and coheir of Jenkin ab Rees ab David, of Gilvach Wen, Cardiganshire.

Griffith ab Nicholas was possessed

of great property, and maintained princely establishments. A cotemporary bard addressing him, said:

Saith gastell sy i'th gostiaw,

A saith Lys y sy i'th law.

That is:

Thou hold'st seven palaces in thy hands,

And castles seven with domain lands.

Anon.

He was a person of great power and influence, in his native country, in the reign of Henry VI., and was allied by marriage with some of the principal families both in North and South Wales. His biographer de-

Ei ddarogan hyd Wanas  
Ydd wyv ar ol Adda Vras.

4

Adda vardd, a'r ddau Verddin,  
Iddo wyv heno vy hun;

scribes him as a man of "hott, frie, cholerrick spiritt; one whose counsells weare all *in turbido*, and therefore naturallie fitlie composed and framed for the times:" and also as "verie wise, and infinitelie subtile and craftie, ambitionse beyond measure, of a busie stirring braine, which made manie to conjecture, that some greate matter hanged over his head." His hasty spirit, and violence of temper, frequently involved him in quarrel with his powerful neighbours. He drew upon himself the enmity of Richard, duke of York, by withholding from him a piece of land in the marches of Herefordshire, having peremptorily refused to obey the summons of the sheriffs to answer for his conduct. On another occasion he quarrelled, with more justice perhaps, with Jasper, earl of Pembroke, who had used his interest with the king, Henry VI, to supersede him in the command of the castle of Cilgerran, which Griffith had held for some time under the crown. He was besides at enmity with the duke of Buckingham, owing probably to some disputes about their territories, which in some places lay contiguous.

Griffith had such a deep-rooted antipathy to the English generally, that he could not at first be prevailed upon to declare in favour of either of the two great parties, which at that time divided the nation. It so happened, however, at last, owing to some depredations committed in the marches, which he was known to have countenanced, that he, together with one Philip ab Ilovel, was found guilty of felony, on an indictment preferred against him in the county of Salop.

When he discovered the situation in which he was now placed, and at the same time knew what he was to expect in consequence of the indictment, he at once determined to break with the court; and, as his first measure, he made his peace with

the duke of York, who gladly accepted his offer of assistance.

The duke of York being shortly after defeated and slain at the battle of Wakefield, Griffith joined the forces of his son the earl of March at Gloucester, with eight hundred chosen men well armed and provided. Hence the army proceeded for Mortimer Cross, Herefordshire, where they were met by the Lancastrian forces, under the command of Jasper, earl of Pembroke. In the course of the engagement which ensued, Griffith received a mortal wound, and only lived long enough to be informed by his son Owain, that victory had declared in their favour.

The battle at Mortimer Cross took place in the year 1461. The present ode was probably written shortly after Griffith's reconciliation with the duke of York.

We cannot well conclude this notice of Griffith ab Nicholas without remarking that he was firmly attached to the Welsh nation; and that to the Welsh bards he was the Mæneas of his day. He held an Eisteddvod at Caermarthen, of which he was the president; and a lineal descendant of his, the present noble lord Dinevor, was, like him, the president of the Eisteddvod held in the same town, in the year 1823.

Long have the lords of Dinevor

Been favourites of the Celtic  
song;

In war the leaders of the host,

In peace their country's pride and  
boast,—

Patrons of right, and foes to  
wrong.

See a Biographical sketch of Griffith ab Nicholas in the Camb. Reg. vol. i. pp. 54-64. And also in the Rev. T. Rees's Topographical, &c. Description of South Wales.

3. *hyd Wanas*, "as far as Gwanas."

Gwanas is the flat between Bwlch Oerddrws and Cader Idris. Plwy Gwanas is now added to Dolgellau;

Chwannog wyv ei ddarogan  
 Gwr yn benaig o Urien ; 8  
 Y gwr hwnw a garwn  
 A dry gwyr gyda'r Goron.

Coron yr haelion yw'r hydd o'r Deau,  
 Dwyoes vo i Rufydd ; 12  
 Ev a wna arvau newydd,  
 Mewn rhôd o'r mwnai y rhyddl.

Grufydd ev a rydd dair o vrain unlliw,  
 A llew gwyn i Owain ; 16  
 Llawer mab a wisg lliain,  
 Dan yr haul, yn dwyn y rhai'n.

Y mae i rhai'n hyd y môr hwnt  
 I'r Cadben, a'r *Lutenont* ; 20  
 Mawr yw yn Nghymmru ei rent,  
 Mwy yw iddo y meddiant.

Ei veddiant val sant y sydd o'r Deau  
 I Dywyn Meirionydd ; 24  
 O Vynwy i Vevenydd,  
 A vyno vo i Von vydd.

Ni bydd, ac ni bu, dim well no'r gwr du  
 Y sy'n magu llu'n y gorllewin ; 28

and Capel Gwanas has long since disappeared.

9. *Y gwr hwnw*, &c. "That man we love who gains men over to be on the side of the crown;" that is, to advocate the rights of Richard, duke of York; and, after his death, those of his son Edward, earl of March, to the throne of England. The above explanation appears necessary; for the duke of York, although he laid his claims to the crown, never enjoyed it; and his son was not proclaimed king until after the battle of Mortimer Cross.

13. *Ev a wna*, &c. That is, he will enlist men for money. An allusion to Griffith ab Nicholas mustering an armed force previous to the battle at Mortimer Cross.

15. *Grufydd ev a rydd*, &c. "Griffith will present his son Owain with three ravens of like colour, and also a white lion." This may allude to Griffith presenting his son with a shield with his own arms emblazoned upon it; and the royal lion for a crest.

25. *Mevenydd*, a comot of Cantrev Canol, Caermarthenshire.

Ni bu un benach ; na vu, a Duw yn vâch !  
Na urddawl o'i âch mor ddilychwin.

Evo o Waithvoed yw yr ail a roed,  
Rhoed Iesu ei oed megys Edwin ; 32  
Cenedl mewn cynnydd i'r gwr, val Gweirydd,  
O Vynyw y sydd i Von, a sin.

Mynu y tân y maent hwy, o Gaer i lan Gwy ;  
A mwy o Gonwy i Lan Gynin ; 36  
Ev a aeth val udd ei enw ev, val Nudd,  
Grufydd o Vôr Udd hyd ar Vreiddin.

Ni âd ev o'i dŷ gamrent ar Gymnry ;  
A hwy y pery hyny no'r hin ; 40  
Trevi a biau, daiar y Deau,  
A'i da, a'i thyrâu, hyd Wytherin.

Iddo ev ydd aeth ddwy arglwyddiaeth,  
Nid gwaeth no Dugiaeth lle caid ei win ; 44  
Arberth a erbyn, amlwg yw Emlyn,  
Hyn ato a dŷn val Custenin.

Ni âd hwn â'i wyr un lle o Lan Llyr  
I Aber Ysgyr heb oresgyn ; 48  
Novies Dinevwr yni aeth yn wr,  
Val y gwnaeth Tewdwr, mewn twr meinin.

Craf y dwg Grufydd *ystâd* nos a dydd,  
Val y bydd y gwŷdd yn dwyn y gwin ; 52

33. *Gweirydd*, son of Owain, of Glamorgan, a chieftain who was killed when fighting as an ally to Rhodri Mawr, in the year 873.

36. *Llan Gynin*, in Caermarthen-shire.

42. *hyd Wytherin*, "as far as Gwytherin." Gwytherin is a parish near Llanrwst. Gwenvrewi, or St. Winifred, spent her last days at Gwytherin, and was buried there. Her bones, however, after 500 years'

repose, were conveyed to the Abbey of Shrewsbury in, or about the year 1140.

Gwytherin, a saint who lived in the sixth century, was the son of St. Dingad, the patron saint of the church at Llanymddyvri.

45. *Arberth*, the town of Narberth, in Pembrokeshire.

47. *Llan Llyr*, in Cardiganshire.

48. *Aber Ysgyr*, a parish, in Brecknockshire, situated on the river Ysgyr near its fall into the Usk.



- Cywir a gwirion yw'r gwr i'r Goron,  
Cynghor vydd i hon ger bron brenin ;  
Ar ol Nicolas gwr a oedd mewn gras,  
Evo yw urddas sir Caervyrddin. 56
- Eryr Caervyrddin mae warant evo  
O Vristo i Benvro bant ;  
Eiste, cael *crestio* cant ;  
Hyn vydd heno'n ei veddiant. 60
- Meddiannus ac Ustus yw o ddwy-Went  
I dŷ Ddewi Mynyw ;  
Brawdwr gwlad Gamber ydyw  
Yn rhoi barn ar y rhai byw. 64
- Be byw yn Neheubarth heddyw Arthur  
Val y bu, a'r llu llawer ;  
Ev a alwai ei vilwyr ;  
Yn blaid i vab Elidir : 68  
A'i blaid ev yn Ninevwr  
Ill dau a gais gwyllt a gwâr.
- Gwyllt a gwâr a gâr, ni ddigerir awr  
Ar orwyr Elidir ; 72  
Arno mae pwys y ddwysir,  
Danaw y saiv deunaw sir.
- Sirig arian sy ragorau  
I'r sant gorau o'r saint geirwir ; 76  
Sêl a tharian sy lwyth orau,  
A sias voreu i Sais a vwrir ;  
Sarf gwirodau, saiv ddevodau,  
Sy ammodau ni symudir ; 80  
Sant aelodau sul y Blodau  
Sydd aelodau swydd Elidir.
- Tiriawg ydoedd, tarw i gadau ;  
Tyr vwriadau trwy ei vrodir : 84



Tarian bydoedd, twrn heb wadau ;  
 Teg ei radau, hwynt a gredir.  
 Tad caredig, tai rhwymedig,  
 Tervynedig trev a nodir ; 88  
 Teyrn gweledig, trev gadwedig,  
 Twr cauedig, traw y cedwir.

*Miragl solas* mawrglos Eli,  
 Mab i Veli'n mhawb a volir ; 92  
 Mur Nicolas, yn marn Celi ;  
 Y môr heli lle i'n rheolir.  
 Mab darogan, mwy'r annogan',  
 Yw Mynogan o manegir ; 96  
 Mal lle llogan, medd dysgogan,  
 Mur diogan mawr y dygir.

Gwirda adain gair a dd'wedai,  
 Ac a redai dros bob grodir ; 100  
 Gwr goradain gwir a gredai,  
 Gwir a dd'wedai garw y ddeudir ;  
 Gwin drwy'r Veri, glyn Mieri,  
 Gŵyr i beri'r gwyr a burir : 104  
 Gwên Eleri gwlad Pryderi,  
 Yw gwraidd deri gwrdd o dirir.

Diriai Liwlad, blaid i'r *Lili*,  
 Ei dŵr Fili draw o faelir ; 108

92. *Mab i Veli*, "a son of Beli," here a term of compliment to Griffith ab Nicholas. *Beli*, that is, Beli the great, the 64th king of Britain. He was the son of Manogan, and the father of the celebrated Caswallon.

103. *Veri*=y Veri=Llan y Veri. Ferry side, a village situated about eight miles from Caermarthen, on the banks of the Towy in the parish of St. Ishmael, in the hundred of Kidwelly.

105. *Gwên Eleri*, "the smile of Eleri." Eleri, a female saint, was one of the daughters of Brychan, and wife of Ceredig ab Cunedda. She

lived about the middle of the fifth century, and was the mother of Sandde, the father of St. David.

*gwlad Pryderi*, "the land of Dyved." Pryderi was the son of Pwyll Pen Anwn, and a chieftain of Dyved. See Camb. Biog.

107. *Liwlad*=Eliwlod. A term of compliment. Eliwlod was the son of Madog ab Uthyr, and one of the three golden-tongued knights of the court of Arthur.

*Lili*, the lily. An allusion to the white rose, from its being lily white.

108. *Ei dŵr Fili*, Caerphilly castle, in Glamorganshire.

Dâr y wiw-wlad â drwy Wili  
 Aed aur Ili ev a dreulir ;  
 Dôr meddiannus o Yscanus,  
 Da moliannus od ymlynir ; 112  
 Du meddiannus, un llwyddiannus,  
 Du oedranus nis didrainir.

I'r hael yn rhwydd y rhôl yn rhydd,  
 A *sêl* y sydd i'r sawl sy wir ; 116  
 Er Sais drwy swydd, er sias dros wŷdd ;  
 Ei swydd y sydd dros wŷdd y Sir :  
 Un Iarll ni wnai yn ol a wnai ;  
 Y dyn nid âi na'i dai, na'i dîr ; 120  
 Aed Iarll i'w dai am ael mis Mai,  
 Y gwin a gai, ac iawn a gwir.

121. *am ael Mai*, "in, or about,  
 the month of May."

There is, in Gorcheston Beirdd

Cymru, a Cywydd, by Gwilym  
 Ieuan Hen, addressed to Griffith ab  
 Nicholas.

## II.

## I OWAIN AB GRUFYDD AB NICOLAS, O GYDWELY.

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THIS poem seems to have been addressed to Owain on his being appointed governor of Kidwelly Castle; for the bard alludes to his having been invested with the insignia of office, and calls him the captain of Kidwelly. He also wishes him a long life to discharge the important duties imposed upon him by his exalted station. He mentions his impartiality in the administration of justice; and says that under his government, neither the lawless would escape his vigilance, nor the weak suffer from the hands of the oppressor. The bard after this takes occasion to record Owain's kindness to him in supplying him with the means of support whilst in concealment; and mentions him as still being the same kind friend to him. He next tells us how splendid an establishment Owain kept, and what hearty welcome he gave his visitors; and concludes in language highly complimentary to his hero.

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IARLL hir vo'r llew o Urien,  
 A llew o hil yr ieirll hen;  
 Owain dynhyr maen *diemwnt*,  
 Ivor Hael Dinevwr hwnt.

4

II. Addressed to Owain, son of Griffith ab Nicholas, of Kidwelly.

Owain was the second son of Griffith ab Nicholas, and he "had much of his father's craft and subtilty in him; he was bold besides and active; an excellent artisan in discovering men's secrets, and observing their dispositions."

The article, from which the above has been extracted, appears in the Camb. Reg. vol. i. p. 60. The writer presents us with an interesting anecdote about Owain, when lord Whitney, (the subject of the ode Dosp. I. 9.) with some others, was commissioned to go into the principality to arrest Griffith ab Nicholas. When the commissioners arrived at Newton, Owain was deputed by his father to find out the object of their journey,—a circumstance of which Griffith, it seems, was not before aware. The commissioners, however, had not been there long before Owain discovered upon what errand they were come. After remaining at New-

ton that night, they, on the following day, arrived at Caermarthen with the intention of there arresting Griffith ab Nicholas. When there, lord Whitney sent for the mayor and sheriffs of the town; and after shewing them his commission, demanded their assistance in the arrest; which it was agreed should be done the next morning. Owain, however, was not inactive on this occasion. His attention to the commissioners was unremitting; and, observing that lord Whitney had heedlessly put the commission into the sleeves of his cloak, he took care, during supper, "to ply his guests plentifully with liquor; and having succeeded in inebriating them, possessed himself unobserved and without difficulty of this important document." The commissioners, being thus deprived of their power, returned to court without executing their commission, and nothing more was heard of them.

Iawn cael ar ŵyr Nicolas	
Yr aerwy braisg o'r aur bras ;	
Dalied Cadben Cydwely	
Deiroes mewn aur drosom ni.	8
Mastr Owain o'r mwstr <i>reial</i> ,	
Meistr vo o Westmistr i'r Vâl ;	
Ni ad ev, yn mlaen dwyvil,	
Dreisiaw gwan, na'i droi is gil.	12
Vo eirch i'r anghyvarchwr	
Oddeu'r varn gadarn val gwr ;	
Rhoi cyvraith berfaith i'r beilech,	
Rhoi devawd i'r rhai diveilch.	16
A mi'n nhiredd Gwynedd gynt	
Yn herwa yno hirhynt ;	
Owain i gadw vy cinioes,	
Ei aur a'i win ym a roes ;	20
A heddiw'n mhob lliw, nid llai,	
Ym o winoedd a mw nai ;	
Wythryw win, eithr ei ranu,	
Y sy'n ei lys wen i lu.	24
Tri bwtler, <i>sewer</i> y sydd,	
Tri chog, <i>panter</i> , a chigydd ;	
Dau gyrvydd, pobydd gwaith per :	
Dwyswydd, <i>ystiward</i> , <i>usier</i> .	28
Pob swyddog sy i'r marchog mawr	
Deau perthig, onid porthawr.	
Ni weled o'r maen bedydd,	
Henw sy well no'r hwn sydd ;	32

It was shortly after this affair that the indictment for felony was preferred against Griffith ab Nicholas in the county of Salop, as mentioned in the note to the ode, Dosp. II. 1.

10. *Vâl*, the Vale Royal, or golden Vale, in Herefordshire.

18. *Yn herwa*, "the being in concealment." *Herwa*, to fly from place to place ; to wander. The bard here alludes to his being obliged to conceal himself on account of what he had written, or for some active part he

had taken in the politics of the day.

26. *panter*, a pantler ; a pantry keeper.

29-30. *marchwrig mawr Deau perthig*, "a Dimetian knight."

30. *onid porthawr*, "except a porter." The bard states here that Owain had servants of every description except a porter. His meaning must be that Owain kept no porter to shut out, or exclude, visitors.

31. *maen bedydd*=bedyddvaen, a baptismal font.

Henwau a roed hen ar wyr, A hyn mal henwau milwyr ; Ban y rhoed bob un o'r rhai'n, O dŷ Dduw ydoedd Owain.	36
Cri Owain Rodri lle'r oedd Aeth ei ovn i eithavoedd ; Owain y Glyn hen a'i gledd, Owain Nic'las a'i nawcledd ;	40
Owain Gwynedd, llin Gynan, Owain vraig ewin y vrân ; Ail i Owain Gyveiliawg Yw Owain ddydd gwyr Llan Ddawg ;	44
Owain hen, a'm Mhapien hir, Vu wndawd o Ruveindir ; Owain, pab Rhuvain priveirdd, Owain o ben bryn y beirdd ;	48
Bwriodd Owain ab Urien Y tri thŵr yn Nghattraeth hen. Ovnodd arthur val goddaith, Owain, ei vrain a'i fôn vraith ;	52
Owain, dëyrn y Deau, Ovned o ieirll vwy no dau ; Owain Rafael hen Rufydd A eilw y gwr hael o gudd ;	56
Na sonier am yr eryr, Nag am wadd, nag am ei wyr ; Nag am lew, nag am ei lain, Na dim mwy ond am Owain.	60

39. *Owain y Glyn*, Owain Glyn-dwr.

45. *Owain hen*, &c. "Owain the sage, and my chief pope;" that is, Owain was esteemed by the bards

equal to the pope in his conclave.

50. *yn Nghattraeth hen*, an allusion to the battle of Cattraeth. See Aneurin's poem.

## III.

## I DDAVYDD GOCH.

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THE bard, after tracing the pedigree of David Gough through nineteen generations, up to Rhodri the Great, observes that he had been calculating the good fortune that was to happen to him, namely, that he should soon be possessed of a splendid castle, a mansion, and a barony. He then says that, as a bard, he was to David Gough what Taliesin was to Elfin; and Adda Vras to Llywelyn. He also compares himself, with respect to his power of divination, to the poet Meigant, and Merlin Ambrosius. In the next place, following the example of Iolo, who was bard to Rhydderch the Generous, he enjoins upon David Gough the necessity of his not divulging his plans for action; and bids him prepare for the day of conflict with caution and discretion. He also advises him, that, when the time was come which would require his exertions, he should be quick in designing and mighty in executing his plans. He assigns to his hero the arms of Llywarch ab Brân, and looks forward to the time when he should be created baron.

---

BREINIAWL wyt o'r barwnwaed,  
Barwn Ysteplwn nos daed;

III. Addressed to David Gough, of Stepleton Castle. His arms (see lines 57-62) were the same as those of Llywarch ab Bran; namely, argent, a chevron sable between three chevrons with ermine in their beaks, proper. In addition to the above, the bard allows him a lion. David Gough may have, perhaps, borne a lion for a crest over the shield of his tribe.

Davydd Goch (otherwise David Gough) is supposed by a writer in the *Cambrian Register* (vol. i. p. 68.) to have been a near kinsman of Matthew Gough, who was "a famous warrior in the times of Henry V. and Henry VI., and slain in the civil tumult raised by Jack Cade," when a detachment of the king's army under sir Humphrey Stafford was wholly cut to pieces by the rebels in the year 1451. The cognominal additions, however, of Goch, Llwyd, Gwyn, &c. in those days, afford no proof of relationship; for the assump-

tion of such epithets was entirely arbitrary. Permanent surnames, such as Mostyn, Glynn, Wynn, Lloyd, Vaughan, Pryce, &c. did not come into use until in the following century.

David Gough, the hero of this poem, was a celebrated swordsman. It was the aim of the bard, in which it appears he succeeded, to excite him to act on the Lancastrian side. The majority of the Welsh people were Lancastrians at heart, owing to Henry, earl of Richmond, and Jasper Tudor, earl of Pembroke, who were their countrymen, being nearly allied to the reigning monarch, Henry VI. Several of the Welsh, however, were Yorkists; for in the person of Richard, duke of Gloucester, and afterwards in that of his son Edward, earl of March, they recognised the descendants of Gwladus Ddu, daughter of Llywelyn ab Iorwerth, the most puissant of their native princes. For of the house of York



Davydd Goch, Duw vydd o gylch,	
A dau Iago yn d'ogylch ;	4
Mab wyt i roi ym y budd,	
Wyr Adam o Varedydd :	
Ab Madog a'i ymogawr ;	
Ab Adam walch y byd mawr,	8
Ab Rhys oedd <i>Bwmparis</i> hael ;	
Ab Ivor byw ei avel ;	
Ab Gruffydd â'r meirch rhuddell,	
Ab Ieuan wyt, heb un well ;	12
Ab Ivor puror gwin per,	
Ab Phylip a'r pump Folwer ;	
Ab Einion galon glân Gwy,	
O âch cenedl uwch Conwy ;	16

were the Salisburys of Denbighland and Meirioneth. But to return to the subject of the present poem.

David Gough, having made himself master of the castle of Llanvihangel, commonly called *Castell y Bery*, situated on the western skirt of Cader Idris, had frequent opportunities afforded him, of which he, together with his followers, availed himself, of sallying forth from this fortress to annoy the Yorkists. The latter were at last compelled to apply for aid. To check therefore "Coch of Pennant" (as the hero of this poem was called) in his marauding excursions, Herbert, earl of Pembroke, sent a select troop of his men from South Wales, under the command of Thomas ab Griffith ab Nicholas, who was esteemed a most expert manager of steed, sword, and lance, having in his youth exercised himself in the use of them, in the service, and at the court of Philip the Good, duke of Burgundy. The two rival chieftains met near the village of Pennal, in Meirionethshire. The spot where they met is called, in history, "Pennal Field." The chiefs soon singled each other out ; and after a dreadful struggle, David Gough fell before Thomas ab Griffith. On the fall of their leader the followers of David Gough dispersed. And Thomas ab Griffith, fatigued by the conflict, retired to an adjoining field : and while

he laid himself on his face on the grass to breathe, he was killed by the spear of a Lancastrian, who followed him. His corpse was conveyed to Aberdovey, and from thence by sea to Bardsey island, where he was buried among the "eleven thousand saints." On the field, where he expired, a cenotaph consisting of stones and sods was erected, which is still extant covered with stunted oaks. It is in the next field but one, on the right hand, after passing Pennal bridge on the road towards Aberdovey. The field next to this, situated towards the west, and containing about nine acres of land, was the field of battle. Opposite, on the south of the road, is another tumulus, larger and more ancient, composed of artificial ground, and now covered with full grown Scotch pine. Of this tumulus nothing is known. They are both on the Talgarth estate, the property of Ch. Tho. Thrustan, esq. R. N.

Each of the Pennal chieftains was an ancestor to a peer of the present day—Thomas ab Griffith to lord Dinevor ; and David Goch to lord Ranelagh.

2. *Ysteplwn*, Stepleton castle, near Presteigne, Radnorshire.

4. *dau Iago*, "the two James's." St. James the greater ; and St. James the less.

9. *Pwmparis* = Pomme Paradise, the John apple.



Ab Llywareh bareh hyd y bedd,  
 Ab Brân, *emprwr* o Wynedd ;  
 Ab Dinawal o'r dalaith,  
 Ab Einydd iarll ban oedd iaith ; 29  
 Ab Aclaw'n Aberfraw bu,  
 Ab Alasar heb lysu ;  
 Ab Tudwal, mal gwyr Maclawr,  
 O dir Mon ab Rhodri Mawr ; 24  
 O'r bonedd uchav, Ddavydd !  
 Impyn wyd un gamp a Nudd ;  
 Gorau un ei *betigryw*  
 Wyd o Von i wlad Vynyw. 28

A mi oddiar Gymaron  
 Yn dy dŷ vry ar y Vron ;  
*Calcio* bum, wrth y *cloc* bach,  
 Dy oriau a'th bedeirach ; 32  
 Daroganais Sais heb swydd,  
 A chaer eglur i'wch arglwydd ;  
 A thŵr teg, a thai i'r tau,  
 A barwniaeth a breiniau. 36  
 Taliesin i Elfin wyv  
 I't Davydd val y tyvwyv ;  
 Mal Adda Vras o dalaith  
 Llywelyn erchwyn ein iaith ; 40  
 Mal Meigant pan gânt â'i gyrrn,  
 Araith dda i Wrthëyrn ;  
 Mal *Merddin*, pan ddewinwyv,  
*Emrys* yn y *Mars* a wyv. 44  
 Dwy ŵyl y dywed Iolo  
 Oedd vardd i'w arglwydd evo,  
 " Da daint rhag tavawd, daw dydd,  
 Yn nghilvach savn anghelvydd ;" 48

19. *Dinawal* = Dyynwal.

21. *Aberfraw*, in Anglesea, formerly the seat of the princes of North Wales, and spot where one of the three courts of justice for the principality was holden.

22. *Alasar* = Alser.

29. *Cymaron* = Castell Cymaron, in

Radnorshire.

41. *Meigant*, a saint and a poet, lived in the latter part of the fifth, and the beginning of the sixth century.

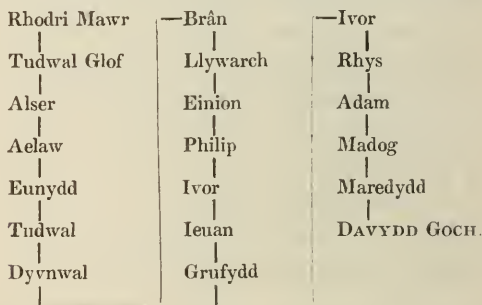
44. *Mars*, the marches, or borders of Wales.

Da daint rhag tavawd a dau, Am a wnawn â'm min innau. Bydd arav Davydd y dawn, Bydd goviawdr, a bydd gyviawn ; Bydd ddystaw a gwna lawer, Brysia i bawb i roi 'spêr. Dyrchav dy vaner Davydd ! Er Mair dwg i Gymmry'r dydd ; A llew, a thair brân <i>Llywarch</i> <i>Ab Brân</i> , i bob rhai yn barch. Maes arian sy'th deirbran di, Cwpl du val capel Dewi ; Breiniawl oedd dy hynawl hÿn, Y braint oedd dair brân tyddyn. Mwya' adar a garyt Adar y brain gyda'r brut ; Da ydyw yt, nid wyd waeth, I dair brân droi barwniaeth ; Barwn adar brain ydwyd, A iarll hen vy'ch o wr llwyd.	52       56       60       64       68
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57. *Llywarch ab Brân*, a chieftain of Denbighshire, who lived in the reign of David ab Owain Gwynedd, about 1170. He was the stock of one

of the fifteen tribes of North Wales.

The following is the pedigree of David Goch, or Gough, as given by the bard in the above poem :



## IV.

CYWYDD I MORGAN AB THOMAS AB GRUFYDD  
AB NICOLAS, O ABER MARLAIS.

THE fame of Morgan ab Thomas, of Abermarlais, is mentioned as being spread far and wide among the English nation, which, it is said, stood in similar dread of him as once it did of Owain Glyndwr's army. The bard alludes to a report of some hot encounter that occurred between his hero and the English. The English are said to be always given to skirmishing; but, at the same time, it is said that their movements were never unobserved by the sons of Thomas ab Griffith. Morgan was distinguished in the conflict by the largeness of his shield. In comparison of which, it is said, other shields were but small. And in allusion to his armorial bearings, the bard says, that his ravens would hover over London, and throughout England. He calls him the champion, and the eagle, of Griffith ab Nicholas; and then, he says, when seven languages, that is, when the enemy from various quarters shall arrive, like a wave, at Leithon, Morgan with his banners will also be there; and the English to a man will be obliged to fight for the spoil. The bard, after this, enjoins upon Morgan not to give quarter; and, at the same time, to remember the saying of Hen Gyrus of Ial, who said that "discretion is better than gold." He recommends him also to conciliate the men of South Wales, in order that they, in conjunction with his brothers, might come to his support whenever he stood in need of their assistance. And the poem concludes by preparing his mind for the scenes which awaited him.

MAE digon o son gan Sais.  
Am Orlant Aber Marlais;

IV. Addressed to Morgan ab Thomas ab Griffith ab Nicholas, of Abermarlais, Caernarthenshire.

The biographer in the *Cambrian Register* (vol. i. p. 69.) makes the following contrast between the character of Morgan ab Thomas, and that of his brother David, the subject of the sixth poem of the present *Dosparth*: "Morgan and David," he says, "were home-bred men, far differing from their father in the true temperature of their minds. Morgan was the better man; David the better souldier: Morgan I had rather have for my friend; David I would

more feare as an enemy. Morgan had more vertue in him, the other more strength and force: right Brutus and Cassius."

Both brothers, it appears, took an active part in the wars of the time. Morgan, like his father, was a Yorkist; but David a staunch Lancastrian. The following anecdote is recorded of them: When, after the final battle at Tewkesbury, Jasper, earl of Pembroke, with his nephew the young earl of Richmond, the only surviving heir of the house of Lancaster, had taken refuge in the castle of Pembroke, king Edward on hear-

Maent hwy val myntai Owain, O vewn brut, yn ovni Brain.	4
Mae'n darogan i'r vrân vry Grasu wybr Lloegrwys obry; Ni phaid Saxoniaid â'u sias, Nid diymÿr plant Tomas.	8
Morgan wrth y darian dau, Mewn trin, mân yw tarianau; Mân wrth dy dair brân, a'u brys, Yw brain wyneb yr ynys;	12
Dy gigvrain dros Lundain lân, Ac ar hyd Llocgr y hedan'; Un ceiliog o Nicolas, A'i eryr wyt, mawr ei ras.	16
Ban ddêl saith iaith i Icithon, O vlodau iarll, val y dôn; <i>Teirbran</i> yt Vorgan a vydd, <i>Grifwnt</i> , Tomas ab Grufydd;	20
<i>Tair saled</i> cyvled â'u câd, Yntau'r <i>llew</i> 'n mlaen <i>tair lleuad</i> , A'r Saison ddynion, bob ddau, A ymladdant am wleddau.	24
Erom, Morgan ab Tomas! Arhown ladd y rhai ni lâs.	
Gwarendaw, yn eu grwndwal, Gwersau Hen Gyrys o Ial;	28
GWELL FWYLL, y mae'n gall y pen, Nog aur, benaig o Urien!	

ing the news immediately dispatched an order to Morgan to muster his forces, and besiege the castle; which he did without delay. His brother David, alarmed at the perilous situation of the Lancastrian princes, collected his retainers, raised the siege, and shipped both the earls at Tenby for the coast of France. Thus was David the means of saving the life of the future Henry the Seventh of England.

2. *Orlant*, the Orlando of Romance.

19—22. *Teirbran*, &c. The arms of Morgan ab Thomas are here represented as being quartered, but it is difficult to say in what manner; for the bard only alludes to *three ravens, a gryphon, three helmets, a lion, and three crescents*.

27. *Gwarendaw* = *gorendawa* (*gor-en-taw*), Attend; listen. Hence *gwr-andaw*, corruption of *gorendaw*, To listen; to hear. *Endaw*, To listen, or hearken; to give attention, is frequently used by the poets.

Pwylla heddycha, bob ddau,	
O'r diwedd wyr y Deau ;	32
A doen' hwyntau'r Deheuwr	
I'th raid, pan vo waith ar wyr.	
A'th vroder â'u manerau,	
A'th vaner, cyn hanner hau,	36
A welir hyd yn Nulyn,	
A hyd trwy Gent, i'r Twr Gwyn.	
O Anwig i Verwig vanc,	
Sy heol syr Rys ieuanc ;	40
Ei orwyr wyt, ar ei ol,	
Yn hwyhau yr un heol ;	
Mac'n braf, o myni brivfordd,	
Morgan yt yn mrig y Nordd ;	44
Mac'r bêl, v'anwyl ! i'th ddwyllaw,	
Mac'r fôn o linon i'th law ;	
Mae iti gosbi pob gwyh,	
Ac hyd Von cadw a vynyh ;	48
Ac yr wyd yn dechreu gradd,	
Wrth y naw-wyr, i'th neuadd.	
Bid i'th gov, a bod wyth gant,	
Am Siarl a moesau Rolant ;	52
A wnel ddim yn ol y ddau,	
Ev â'n wr â'i vanerau.	
Gwna dy ran Vorgan yn vwy	
No Sisar, neu hen Sioswy ;	56
Na thôr Morgan wneuthuriad	
Noddvâau, <i>statuniau</i> y Tad ;	
Na vyn gan undyn, hyd vedd,	
Air onid y wirionedd ;	60
Na âd wenwyn yn d'ynys,	
Nesâa i radd hen syr Rhys.	

37. *hyd yn Nulyn*, "as far as Dublin."

38. *trwy Gent*, "through the county of Kent."

39. *O Anwig i Verwig vanc*, "from Alnwick castle to Berwick upon Tweed."

40. *syr Rhys ieuanc*, here an epithet of compliment to Morgau ab Thomas, as a descendant of sir Rhys ab Goronwy, whom the bard (in line 62) wishes his hero to imitate.

58. *statuniau* = statutes.

## V.

CYWYDD ARALL I MORGAN AB THOMAS AB GRUFYDD  
AB NICOLAS, O ABER MARLAIS.

THE bard opens his poem by inquiring who were the noble vultures? the loyal ravens? the birds of courage? the birds of the conflict? He replies, alluding to the arms of Morgan ab Thomas, and says, the ravens of Thomas, of the family of Nicholas. Yes, Morgan, and his ravens, he says, will scour the Ross-land, and dislodge the enemy from thence. The bard, after saying thus much, wishes him success, and excites both South and North Wales to rally under the banner of Morgan. He then (lines 23, 24) describes Morgan's coat of arms, and alludes to some prophetic sayings which were afloat prognosticating every thing that was good to the family of Elidir.

Pwy yw adar gwâr Llwch Gwin?  
Adar brân gyda'r brenin;  
Adar dewrion, drwy daraw,  
Adar y dri, bob dri, draw. 4  
Rhyw'r gigvran, mewn arian oedd,  
Yw'r cyw aruthr o'r caeroedd;  
Brân Domas o Nic'las nen,  
Brân a ŵyr, breiniau Urien; 8  
Mastr Morgan, ev a'i vranos,  
A bair yn rhydd lwybrau'n Rhos.  
Eheded wlad Dyved hir,  
Wedi hedeg Deheudir; 12  
Dwy Wynedd, hi a'i dynion,  
Dan ei dwy adain y dôn';  
A phawb, o agos a phell,  
Hyd yn Wysg dan ei asgell. 16

V. Another poem addressed to Morgan ab Thomas of Aber Marlais.

10. *Rhos*, Cantrev y Rhos, a hundred in Pembrokeshire.

11. *Dyved*, Dimetia; the county of Pembroke, according to Dr. Powel's History of Cambria.

16. *Wysg*, the river Usk.



<i>Mÿned</i> , dan rym ei ònen,	
<i>Morgan</i> Gŵyr, <i>Morganwg</i> wen.	
<i>Ymchweled</i> , ar ei ledol,	
I Ros, a'i wyr ar ei ol ;	20
Brân o vab <i>Urien</i> yw vo,	
Brân oedd yn bwrw enw iddo ;	
Maes arian, tair cigvran caer,	
Cwpl du yn cwplâu dwyaer.	24
Anhap y <i>Lleian</i> o'r Llys	
A ddewiniodd o'i ynys ;	
Mai brân a barcutanod,	
I <i>dreio</i> rhwysg, a dry'r rhod.	28
Eb dewin y breninoedd	
O'i ben gynt, (pwy bynag oedd,)	
Brân ynn a dderbyn ryw ddydd	
Llaw ym mryn llew <i>Meirionydd</i> .	32
Eb yr <i>ADDAV</i> , val breuddwyd,	
<i>VRAS</i> llew am vŵäau <i>Rys</i> llwyd ;	
Coed <i>Elidir</i> hir y rhawg,	
Coed a gedwir, cad goedawg,	36
A geidw eu tir, hir cyn hau,	
Hyd trwy Von, a'u tervynau.	
Ar drimarch i <i>Gynvarch</i> gynt,	
Buan drimeib un dremynt ;	40
Tri broder, pwy'r ddau eraill ?	
Aron, llew <i>Urien</i> , y llail.	
O <i>Maesen</i> , hil <i>Urien</i> lwyd,	
<i>Dreva'n</i> ddugiaid a rivwyd ;	44
Y priv, onid ei rivaw,	
Y sy'n wyth ; oed <i>Iesu</i> , naw ;	
A rhwng naw, o daw i dir,	
A deg enw y digonir.	48

23. *Maes arian*, &c. Arms: argent, a chevron sable between three ravens proper.

25. *Anhap y Lleian*, the misfortune of the nun, that is, a base child: here *Merddin Emrys*, or *Merlin Am-*

*brosius*, who was the son of a Nun, and reported to have been without a father. Tradition says that he was a native of Caermarthen.

30. *Cynvarch*, son of *Meirchion*, and the father of *Urien Rheged*.



Pedwar, pump ; pwy ydyw'r pen ?	
Naw eryr, hwnw Urien ;	
Naw <i>diemwnt</i> , rhivwn Domas,	
Llyna riv yn llawn o ras !	52
Rhiv Morgan, ban ar y byd,	
Rhiver ci vroder hevyd ;	
Ni wnel Mair, a Chynvelyn,	
Leihau rhiv y milwyr hyn.	56

55. *Cynvelyn*, a saint, son of Cunedda. He lived about the beginning of the sixth century.  
 Bleiddyd ab Meirion ab Tibion ab

## VI.

## I DAVYDD AB THOMAS AB GRUFYDD AB NICOLAS.

THIS poem opens by stating that "the strong and terrible one of the broken spear will cause dread to those who are guilty of wrong; and that the fear of him had already spread far and wide." His valorous father is then mentioned as having been universally feared. The bard next alludes to the exploits which David ab Thomas had accomplished with his ashen spear. No one, he says, could encounter him with impunity. He then urges him to exert himself to check every lawless practice, and to insist upon the law being respected, that the aged and the defenceless might be protected. He alludes to David ab Thomas having taken a part in the civil turmoils of the day; and prays him to stand a firm friend to the church. And telling him that he expected to hear shortly of his being knighted, and presented with the collar of SS, he gives a description of the splendid dress, all bespangled with gold, he should then have to wear. And he also tells him how richly caparisoned his charger would then be—with gold trappings, and a golden petrel; and the saddle also, as well as the bridle, ornamented with gold. All this, he says, will well become him whose ancestors were renowned for deeds of valour, and who had the honour of wearing the golden shoe.

Y BWBACH iach â'r gwayw us,  
A yr bŵ ar rai beius;

VI. Addressed to David ab Thomas ab Griffith ab Nicholas.

Arms: argent, a chevron sable between three ravens proper.

David ab Thomas was nicknamed *Davydd Cefyl ceta*, or "David with the cropped tailed horse;" a title which he received from the following ludicrous circumstance. A neighbour of his had a young horse, of which David, who was it seems an excellent judge, had so high an opinion, that he gave for him twenty-four cows, with pasture for them for one year, which, being considered a most extravagant price, exposed him to the ridicule of his acquaintances. As soon as he had completed his purchase, he cut off the horse's ears, slit his nostrils, and cropped his tail; after which he branded the skin all over with a hot iron, impressing it with

numberless hideous and fantastic forms. Some time subsequently, an opportunity was afforded him of shewing his enemies, who had greatly amused themselves with his singular whim, of what metal his cropped horse was composed. Being beset and closely pursued as he approached the river, and perceiving his danger, he clapped spurs to his steed, and leaped across the stream to the opposite bank, and then turned round and tauntingly derided his pursuers for riding such cows, on which they dared not follow him. This is related as a most extraordinary feat, and a poet of his time calls it "*Naid ar march na neidir mwy*," that is, a leap on horseback, which will never be leaped again. Rev. T. Rees's *Topographical, &c. of South Wales*.

I. *gwayw us*, "a shivered spear."

Dy ovn a yraist, Davydd !	
O Dywi vro hyd Vôr Udd ;	4
A Thomas Nicolas ban oedd,	
A wnaeth ovn yn eithavoedd.	
Ynnillodd d'ônwayw wellwell	
Y tyrau pyrth, a'r tir pell ;	8
Cestyll i sevyll dan sêl,	
Caerydd, trevydd, trwy ryvel.	
Ni bu i'th erbyn ddyn, â'i ddûr	
Ar ei dâl, heb roi dolur ;	12
Un ni bo, ni allo neb,	
Trwy waith un yt wrthwyneb.	
Cevaist a vynaist o vyd,	
Cyvoeth ti â'i cai hevyd ;	16
Gwahardd anghyvraith weithion,	
Galw'r gyvraith o'r hen iaith hon ;	
Gwna ei hawl dros y gwan hen,	
Gÿr leidr o garl i wden.	20
Tymhest Davydd ab Tomas	
Vu ar y byd yn vôr bas.	
A, Davydd ! dy gledd deuvin,	
A'th wayw rhudd wnaeth yr hin ;	24
A'th wyr a gymerth eraill	
Iti yn wyr, at y naill.	
Cymmhorth, er Elian Ceimiad,	
Eglwys Duw i gael y 'stâd ;	28
A dal y dyngedven genyd,	
A dyro bach drwy y byd.	
Yn varchog dy ddarogan	
Yr wyv, a'r aur ar y Vrán ;	32
Evo a roir ar dy vrig,	
<i>Esau</i> aur megys Warwig ;	

The epithet of a shivered spear applied to a warrior was esteemed the highest possible compliment that could be paid him.

3. *Thomas Nicolas*. Rather Thomas ab Gruffydd ab Nicolas.

27. *Elian Ceimiad*, a saint who lived about the close of the fifth cen-

tury, to whom there is a church dedicated in Arvon, and another in Anglesey.

34. *Esau aur*, "a gold collar of SS." This decoration appeared first in the reign of Henry IV. and was worn by the distinguished of both sexes. Numerous opinions, as to its

Aur trwm ar y wâr a'r traed,	
Aur a ddyly urddolwaed ;	36
Aur ar dalcen dy benwn,	
Aur hyd y wasg ar dy ŵn ;	
Aur ar dalcen pen pob bys,	
Aur a drig ar dy wregys ;	40
Aur ar dy gledd rhinweddlog,	
Aur hyd dy glust ar dy glôg ;	
Aur a oedd yt, rhyw ei ddwyn ;	
Aur a wisgi ar Wasgwyn.	44
Ei wisg o aur val rhisg iâ,	
Ei <i>drapiad</i> o aur opia ;	
Ei <i>betrel</i> o aur melyn,	
Aur o gylch ei gyvrwy gwyn ;	48
Ei frwyn, ei awwyn, o aur ;	
Ei wâr iddo o ruddaur.	
Gwisg Davydd, o'r dedwydd daid,	
Groesau ar ei <i>gwrscriaid</i> ;	52
Arwedd cryr o'r ddeuryw,	
Vlodau o'r aur val dy ryw ;	
Dy daid, a'th hendaidd, a'th hŷn,	
Yr esgid aur a wisgyn'.	56
Syr Sion Gruffydd y rhuddaur,	
Syr Rhys yr <i>esau</i> o'r aur ;	
Syr Davydd, bâr ònwydd brau,	
Uchod wythoes vych dithau.	60

origin, have been offered ; but the most probable one is that offered by sir Sammel R. Meyrick, (see Mirror, No. 681, p. 191), namely, that Henry IVth's motto, whilst only earl of Derby, being *Sovereign*, he afterwards, when he became actual sovereign, thinking the initial of his motto auspicious, had a collar made, the links of which were in the form of SS. According to our bard's account some of the collars were gold and others silver.

43. *rhyw ei ddwyn*, "it is natural,

or right, to bear it."

44. *Aur a wisgi*, &c. "Thy Gascoigne" (that is, the cropped tailed) horse will wear gold.

46, 47. *Ei drapiad*, &c. "His trappings will be of the gold of Ophir; and his breastplate also of gold. *Petrel*, a breastplate. *Bailey's Diet*.

57. *Syr Sion Gruffydd*, sir John Griffith, of Abermerlais, who was David's grandfather by his mother's side.

## VII.

I HARRI AB THOMAS AB GRUFYDD AB NICOLAS,  
O LANYMDDYVRI.

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THE bard compares Henry ab Thomas both to Henry III. and Henry II. in stature. His place of residence, he says, was at Llandovery. And he gives him the character of being a wise and a discreet person, and full of courage. He mentions his descent from Urien Rheged and also from Henry Donne. The descendants of Elidir, he says, will never be driven from South Wales; and although they have suffered in battle, in the civil conflicts, for eight summers, yet have they at last obtained justice on their side. The bard here gives instances of justice favouring the defenders of their right to the overthrow of the invaders. He calls Henry the shield of his country; and alluding to the wall of Severus, he says that the sword of Henry was his country's wall. He concludes by mentioning the efficiency, and the prosperous state, of Henry's army, and its capability to check and repel the enemy.

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MAE UN val Harri Mynwy,  
 Neu Harri Ail, neu wr hwy ;  
 Harri'n Llanymddyvri ddoeth,  
 Harri trydydd hir tradoeth ; 4  
 Harri ddewr hardd, o Urien,  
 Un o hil Henri Dwnn hen ;  
*Harri ab Tomas*, hirhynt,  
*Ab Gruffydd* vu'n gwinwydd gynt. 8  
 Ni yrir Elidir lin  
 O ael Deau led ewin ;  
 O chawsant gam yn nghammawn,  
 Dan wyth hav, Duw a wnaeth iawn. 12  
 Gwr a wnel drwg i arall,  
 Wedi lladd arhoed y llall.

VII. Addressed to Henry ab Thomas ab Griffith ab Nicholas, of Llandovery.

6. *Un o hil Henri Dwnn hen*,

"one of the family of Henry Donne." Mably, the daughter of Meredith ab Henry Donne, was Henry ab Thomas's grandmother. See *Pedigree*.

Hen Wrtheyrn Gwrthenau	
Vu'n Sir a'n tir, i'n bratâu.	16
Gwahawdd Saison, bob Ionor,	
I'r Deau maent ar hyd môr.	
Gwae a ddél i'r gwahawdd,	
Ac ni wn a gai un nawdd ;	20
Merliwns o Aber Marlais	
A rŷ dwy sêl ar iad Sais.	
Er hyn mae ar lasvryn lu,	
A brwydr, yn ei bwriadu.	24
Maes a naw 'sgarmes a wnan',	
Yntau Harri yw'n tarian.	
Bu ran, rhwng Deivr a Brynaich,	
Wrth wayw a bron, a nerth braich ;	28
A Severus a vwriawdd	
Wrth wegil Iore, drwy'r North, glawdd.	
A'r clawdd hir yw cledd Harri	
Drwy ystlys ein ynys ni.	32
Yn Nhal-y-Sarn, i hely Sais,	
A'i ganlyn Ystrad Gynlais ;	
Yn ymwan nid rhaid nemawr	
Er cadw i'm oes Riwr Coed mawr.	36
* * * * *	
* * * * *	
Llu Harri sydd, nid llai'r serch,	
Yn llenwi pen eu llanerch ;	

15. *Hen Wrtheyrn Gwrthenau*, &c. "Vortigern came of old into our country to betray us." Vortigern was the 82nd king of Britain, and reigned from about A. D. 443 to 464, when he was deposed. There is a district, in Radnorshire, called after his name Gwrtheyrnion. It was here that he retreated in disgust towards the close of his mischief-making career.

25. *'sgarmes*, a skirmish : *biera*.

27. *Deivr a Brynaich*, the two grand divisions of the kingdom of the Brigantes ; afterwards called, by the Saxons, the kingdom of Northumber-

land. "That part of it is called Deivr, or Deira," which lies nearest to us this side of the river Tyne, and Brynaich, or Bernicia, that which lies further on from the Tyne to the Frith of Edenborough ; both which parts had for some time kings of their own, but were at last united under one." Camden's *Britannia*, vol. iii. p. 2.

29. *A Severus*, &c. An allusion to Severus's wall. See *Myv. Arch.* vol. ii. pp. 193, 199.

34. *Ystrad Gynlais*, a parish and rectory in the hundred of Devynog, Brecknockshire.

Llu yn Llywel, pan ddelont, Lle mae bump llu am y bont. Ni ddaw dyn o'r Mynydd Du Byw o Loegr heb ei lygru. Ni âd Harri anturwyr, Na charl Iorc, nês no Chaer Lyr ; Na Lloegr yn nês no Llugwy, Na gwyr y Mars i Gaer mwy. Mil sydd i Harri o vilwyr, Megys meibion llwydion Llyr ; Mil o vwäau, mil o veirch ; Miloedd a mwy o eleirch ; Mil o <i>wens</i> , chwemil o wyr, Mwy lu dengmil o weywyr ; Tri mäs, tair lluman, tri llu, A bwysa'n wyneb Iesu. Trillu aent at y iarll hen, Teirwart i'r tarw o Urien ; Teiriaith vydd <i>resgyw</i> 'n iaith ni, Teiroes rhoed Duw i Harri.	40     44    48    52    56
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41. Mynydd Du, the Black Mountain in Caernarvonshire. It is not far from Llywel in Brecknockshire.

44. *Caer Lyr*, Leicester.

45. *Llugwy*, used here, perhaps, for the river *Llug*, in Radnorshire. There is a mountain torrent called

*Llugwy* in Caernarvonshire ; and another *Llugwy* in Meirionethshire.

46. *Caer*, probably *Caervyrddin*, Caernarthen.

48. *Llyr*, king Lear.

57. *resgyw*, a rescue.



## VIII.

I SIANCYN AB THOMAS AB GRUFYDD AB NICOLAS,  
I OVYN CURAS I GRUFYDD BASET.

---

THE bard compliments Jenkin ab Thomas on his being lineally descended from Urien Rheged. Alludes to his being related to the descendants of Gwaithvoed and Ednyved Vychan. And addressing him as a staunch defender of the rights of the Vale of Towy, and one that would accept neither favour nor service tendered to him by an Englishman, compliments him on his being a warrior as well as a descendant of warriors. He next alludes to the large store of arms Jenkin ab Thomas had by him. After having, in this manner, paved the way to gain the goodwill of his hero, he acquaints him of the principal object of the present poem, and that was to solicit of him a brigandine for his friend Griffith Basset. He concludes by giving a minute description of this piece of armour.

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Y NAWVED iarll Dinevwr,  
A rown, o gyf yr un gwr ;  
Siancyn, at *iemyn* Tomas,  
Syr Sior i *gwensiero* sias ; 4  
Impyn tir Elidir lân  
O Nicolas, gan' calan.  
Pont a maen i bob maenawr,  
Pummed troed o Waithvoed vawr. 8  
Mae'n wŷr i synwyr Rhys hen,  
Mae'n orwyr mwyn i Urien ;  
Draig yw, a'i rym drwy y gred,  
Dinevwr o Ednyved. 12  
Ni âd gwympo, tra vo vyw,  
Dywi Ystrad, na'i dystryw ;  
Ac ni vyn Siancyn waith Sais ;  
Na gwanwynswydd gan hen-Sais : 16

VIII. Addressed to Jenkin ab Thomas ab Griffith ab Nicholas, soliciting of him a brigandine for one Griffith Basset.

Arvog yw ŵyr marchogion  
O arvau rhwym arver Rhôn.

Baner, val llu o benwaig,  
*Brigawndr* aur val bwrw gŵn draig; 20  
O gyleh hael, val yn gloch hir,  
Yn hoelion, hwn a welir;  
Yn guras Gruffydd Based;  
Yn garegl aur, yn gaer gled. 24  
Gwell vydd, nog y sydd dan ser,  
Gyvundeb rhwng dau gevnder;  
Rhwng eu dau gleddeu, 'mhen glàn,  
Bu ammod o bai ymwan; 28  
Ac o bai gâd esgyb gynt,  
Yn hòno na wahanynt.  
Siancyn, gwaith Llychlyn i'r llall,  
A rŷ gaer rhag gwayw arall; 32  
Mae'n ei wisg wythgant plisgyn,  
A'r plisg yn y wisg yn wŷn.  
Tô sydd ar hyd dwyais hon,  
Tô *teils*, tŷ tew ei hoelion; 36  
Pob llên oddiar lèn arall,  
Pob talcen llên ar y llall.  
Da yw rhwym y bais dur hon,  
Draig o liw gwydrau gloewon; 40  
Melved yw'r *siaced* dan syr,  
A'i llawr val esgyll eryr;  
Pob asgell, val min ellyn,  
Ar y llall, a'r lliw o wŷn. 44  
Pais a'i gwaith val lamp *ysgîwâr*,  
Pleidiau megys plu adar :

20. *Brigawndr*, a brigandine; an armour with many plates and joints like a coat of mail. *Bailey's Dict.*

The bard calls the brigandine, as well in the title of the poem, as also in the poem, a cuirass.

21. *yn gloch hir*, "in the shape of a bell." The brigandine resembles in some measure the shape of a bell,

or that of (24. *caregl*) a chalice.

31, 32. *gwaith Llychlyn*, "a brigandine made of Swedish steel will afford a defence against the spear of the foe."

36. *Tô teils*, "a tile covering." The scales of the cuirass, or brigandine, are here compared to a roof covered with tiles.

Pond tew'r peithyndo newydd ?	
Pob peithyn vinvin a vydd ;	48
Ymyl yn ymyl, bob naw,	
Deg wythwaith wedi eu gweithiaw.	
Melved ydyw'r <i>ddwbled</i> ddu,	
A dur hon wedi eu rhanu ;	52
Pond da'r A, val paentio'r N,	
Ar velved aur o Vwlen ;	
A bwrw oll, val briallu,	
<i>Bols</i> o dân ar balis du ?	56
Dur y sydd newydd, bob naw,	
Deg wythwaith wedi' gweithiaw ;	
Drwy'r bais, a'r dur o'r Basil,	
Ugain myrdd a chweugain mil.	60
Drwy ben pob asen o'r bais	
Mil o emau a welais ;	
<i>Trai Catur</i> drwy y curas,	
Trwy bob gwregys mae <i>sis As</i> .	64
Dêl <i>sinc</i> o odlau Siancyn,	
A'r bais dur i'r Based wÿn.	

53. *val paentio'r N*. "Like the form of an N." The outlines of every two plates in a brigandine are in the form of the letter N.

63. *Trai Catur*=Triquetra, a triangle, or three-cornered figure. *Bailey's Dict.* Every plate of a brigandine is of a triangular form.

64. *sis As*, six aces ; that is, the six buttons. The brigandine is fastened

round the body, like a waistcoat, by means of six buttons in the front.

See an engraving of the brigandine in sir S. R. Meyrick's Ancient Armour.

I Meyrick bid pob mawredd,  
Bywyd hir, a byd o hedd ;  
Mewn castell ni vu gwell gwr,  
Neu gywirach wladgarwr.

## IX.

## I SION AB THOMAS, O LANYMDDYVRI.

THE bard opens his poem in a very spirited manner, calling upon his brother minstrels to accompany him forthwith to Landover, to the mansion of John ab Thomas, in order to sing the praises of his hero,—a descendant of Nicholas, and of Elidir. He calls him the raven of Urien, and the protector of his country's rights. He mentions his brother, sir Rhys ab Thomas, as having been instrumental in placing Henry VII. on the throne. The bard then speaks of the loyalty, and extols the valour of John ab Thomas. After this, he alludes to the commission which was sent from court, to arrest Griffith ab Nicholas; and says that John was not inactive on that occasion. He next enumerates the high offices which John ab Thomas held under government. The poem concludes by the bard referring to a prophetic song composed by one John of Normandy, a hermit, who had foretold the revolutions which took place in the reigns of Henry VI, Edward IV, and Richard III, as well as the attempts made by Lambert Simnel, and Perkin Warbeck, to effect another under Henry VII. If, says he, it was their intention, and those of their partizans, to dethrone the king, they had nothing to expect, at the hands of sir Rhys, and his brother, but to suffer on the gallows for their traitorous temerity.

Awn; awn; anant ein ynys!  
 Vry i Lanymddyvri lys;  
 I ganu val pylgeinwyr,  
 I Sion ab Tomas a'i wyr. 4  
 Ni maddau Sion medd y sydd,  
 Yn wir waywfon hen Rufydd;  
 Rhyw Nic'las, dan guras gwŷn,  
 Rhyw Elidir hir lwydwŷn; 8  
 Ni bu gadben es enyd  
 Hir well ei vodd, o'r holl vyd;  
 Na; ni bu un wyneb well,  
 Na'i gystal yn ei gastell. 12

IX. Addressed to John ab Thomas, of Ilandover.

5. *Ni maddau Sion*, &c. "John will not spare the mead."

Ei vrân ev a geidw'n devawd,	
A llu o vrain oll ci vrawd ;	
Brân Urien, bur a'n arail,	
Brân syr Rhys, ci <i>Brins</i> , yw'r ail ;	16
Cadw, yn ol cadau, a wnaeth	
Brain hwnw ein brenhiniaeth ;	
Targed Harri seithved, Sion !	
Trwy'r aer yw yntau'r awrhon ;	20
Mawr vu hyd gŵryd Garwy,	
Mae Sion vab Tomas yn vwy ;	
Gwrol vu vab Nicolas	
I ÿru gwae ar ei gâs ;	24
Sion ei ŵyr y sy'n ei ol,	
O ryw Urien, môr wrol ;	
Pan vu ymdrychu'n y drin	
Ar y Brain, hwy a'r brenin ;	28
Ni bu Sion, â'r ddwyvron ddur,	
Yn y saig yno segur.	
Syr Hywel yn rhyvelu,	
Velly'dd oedd, â'r Vwyall ddu ;	32
Naill ai Sion yn ganllaw sydd,	
Ai'n glo adail ein gwledydd ;	
Maer yw Sion ar bumryw sêl,	
A'i ringyll a'i aur angel.	36
Yngnad ein dwywlad eilwaith,	
Canghellawr Cantrev Mawr maith ;	

15. *Brân Urien*, "the raven of Urien Rheged." For bearing of which, and for assuming the name of Fitz-Urien, Rice ab Thomas, grandson of sir Rhys ab Thomas, lost his life in the reign of Henry VIII.

18. *Brain hwnw*, *seu Brain syr Rhys ab Thomas yn mrwydr Bosworth*. An allusion to the battle of Bosworth-field, where the ravens of sir Rhys ab Thomas led on to victory and the establishment of Henry VII. upon the throne.

20. *Trwy'r aer*. In the battle.

21. *Garwy*, son of Geraint ab Erbin, celebrated in the Welsh Triads.

27, 28. *Pan eu ymdrychu*, &c. "When there was a struggle between the ravens and the king, John was

not inactive;" that is, when a commission was sent to arrest Griffith ab Nicholas, &c. See the account in Dosp. II. 2. note 4.

31. *Syr Hywel y Vwyall*, "Howell of the battle-axe." He is said by the Welsh bards to have commanded a body of his countrymen as a *corps de reserve*, at the battle of Cressy, and by his seasonable advance, and thundering incursion on the French lines, to have materially contributed to the acceleration of the victory. *Camb. Reg.* vol. i. p. 71.

38. *Canghellawr Cantrev Mawr*, "Chancellor of Cantrev Mawr." Cantrev Mawr is a part of the duchy of Lancaster, now vested in the earl of Cawdor.

Rhaglaw yw ev yn nhair gwlad,  
 Dystain y Deau wastad. 40  
 Ieuan *Ermid* o Normant  
 Yn ei gerdd ei hun a gânt ;  
 Doi dinystr, wedi Ionawr,  
 Pysgod mân, y pysgod mawr ; 44  
 Y doi bryved mewn daiar,  
 Llidiawg wrth y llewod gwâr ;  
 Doi adar mân a wnân' nôd  
 Ar wàrau yr eryrod. 48

A'r oes y dechreuasant  
 Yw'r hon y sy ar Harri sant ;  
 Eilwart ar Edwart o Rôn,  
 Mwy ar Risiart vu'mryson ; 52  
 Ar awr hon ar Harri hir,  
 Ac ar fÿn y gorphenir.  
 Bryd Saison trymion, a'u trin.  
 Briwo'r Brain, bwrw'r brenin ; 56  
 Bryd meirch a brawd y marchog,  
 Eu briwo'n nghrwyn ; a'u bwrw'n nghrog.  
 Yn lle Caswallon Llaw-Hir,  
 Y rhoed Sion yn rhaid y Sir ; 60  
 Y mae, heb ddim o awydd,  
 Oes win i Sion a naw swydd ;  
 Swyddau vyth sy iddaw vo,  
 Yn swyddawg einioes iddo. 64

41. *Ermid*, a hermit : *meudwy*.

50. *Harri sant*, Henry VI.

51. *Edwart*, Edward IV.

52. *Risiart*, Richard III.

53. *Harri hir*, Henry VII.

55. *Bryd Saison*, &c. Allusions to Lambert Simnel, Perkin Warbeck, and others of the disaffected.

56. *Briwo'r Brain*, an allusion to the threats held out by the insurgents against sir Rhys ab Thomas and the entire family.

58. *Eu briwo'n nghrwyn*, a threat synonymous with "mi a'i gwnav yn gregin yn ei groen."



## X.

MOLIANT SYR RHYS AB TOMAS, UN O GYNGHORLAID  
UCHAV BREIN HARRI VII; AC I SLASPAR,  
DUG BEDFORD.

“BLOOD like that which flowed of old through the veins of Griffith Maclawr is the life-soul of Henry VII, Jasper Tudor, and sir Rhys ab Thomas. It flows alike in each of them, and enjoins upon them duties of the highest responsibility. The British isle has now been entrusted to men of kindred blood, to Henry VII, Jasper Tudor, and sir Rhys ab Thomas. The former two are descended from Ednyved Vychan, and sir Rhys is related to them by intermarriage. Wherefore the Goronwys and the Griffiths side with the descendants of Ednyved Vychan. In consequence of which the offsprings of Rhodri the Great will have no longer any cause of alarm. And may the lineal descendants of the mighty three become the most powerful of any under heaven. Henry will maintain his right,—his uncle, Jasper Tudor, will defend us from harm,—and sir Rhys is our pledge for the prosperity of the Rose. May Christendom, in spite of infidel lands, become under the sway of the descendants of Tudor. The stars, as well as the prophetic songs, have long ago assigned this kingdom to Northwallians. For from Gwynedd it has been foretold—from the towers of Idwal has Heinyn, the bard, foretold the overthrow of the Saxon monarchy.”

The above free translation may be regarded as the sum and substance of the former part of the present ode. The remaining part is taken up in praise of sir Rhys ab Thomas.

Y MAE yn cyd dilyd, ac ni'm dawr hyny,  
Henwaed Gruffydd Maclawr ;

X. An ode in praise of sir Rhys ab Thomas, and of Jasper, duke of Bedford. Sir Rhys is regarded as the founder of the noble family of Dinevor. The present lord Dinevor is lineally descended from him. See Collins and Debrett's Peerage.

Sir Rhys ab Thomas was constable and lieutenant of Brecknock; chamberlain of Caernarthen and Cardigan; seneschal and chancellor of Haverfordwest, Ross, and Buallt; justiciary of South Wales, and governor of all Wales; knight banneret, and knight of the most honourable order of the garter; a prime

councillor to Henry VII, and a favourite of Henry VIII. He was also lord of Carrew, Llansadwrn, Cilsant, Emlyn, Narberth, Llanybi, Weobley, Llandinor, and Nantglo.

Sir Rhys married Eva, the daughter and heiress of Henry ab Gwilym of Court Henry. He died in the year 1527, at the age of seventy-six, and was buried in St. Peter's church, Caernarthen, where there is a monument erected to his memory. See a biographical sketch of his life in the Camb. Reg. vol. i. p. 49, &c.

I. *yn cyd dilyd* = *yn cyd-ddilyn*.



Henri, a Siaspar gychwiawr,  
A syr Rhys mac'n rhoi *siars* mawr. 4

*Siars* yr unben o vrenin,  
*Siars* y dug Siors diogan ;  
*Siars* syr Rhys, *siars* ei rosyn ;  
Yw'r un *siars* i'r ynys hon. 8

Yr ynys hon a ranwyd  
I wyr anwyl o'r unwaed :  
O Oronwy ar unnaid,  
Yr hydd o Rufydd a roed. 12

Goronwy, Grufydd gwyr o anian, plaid  
Plant Ednyved Vychan ;  
A'u mam oedd, eu Gwenllian,  
Wyr Tewdwr, ac nid gwr gwan. 16

Ni bydd gwan weithian un wyth-awr, is allt,  
Esilltydd Rhodri Mawr ;  
Y rhai treehav, o'r trichawr,  
Vo eu llin rhwng nev a llawr. 20

Ceidw gwawr nev a llawr a'r lled ei iawnrau  
Henri vrenin seithved ;  
A'i ewythr rhag eniwed,  
A syr Rhys crair dros Rôs cred. 24

6. *Siars*, corruption of Siaspar = Jasper.

14. *Plant Ednyved Vychan*, "the offsprings of Ednyved Vychan:"—namely, Henry VII, and Jasper Tudor, who were both descended from Ednyved Vychan, the prime minister of prince Llywelyn ab Iorwerth.

Sir Rhys ab Thomas was related to Henry VII, and also to Jasper Tudor; for sir Rhys's mother was the daughter of sir John Griffith, of Aber Marlais, who was a descendant of Ednyved Vychan,—the ancestor of Edmund Tudor, earl of Richmond.

18. *Esilltydd Rhodri Mawr*, "the offspring of Rhodri the Great," that is, Henry VII. See in the appendix of Wynne's History of Wales, the pedigree of Owain Tudor, where it is shewn how he is descended from Ednyved Vychan, and also from Rhodri the Great, &c. See also the pedigree of the royal family in Mrs. Hall's Prize Essay, "On the advantage of preserving the Welsh Language, and the costumes of Wales."

23. *A'i ewythr*, "and his uncle." Jasper Tudor was uncle to Henry VII.

Aed cred, ac anghred a'u gwyr yn *oribl*,  
 Dan orwyrion Tudur ;  
 A'r yuys hon rhan y syr,  
 A'r gân, oedd i'r Gwyneddwyr. 26

O dir Gwynedd y darogenid,  
 O dyrau Idwal, y doi rydid ;  
 Dywawd Heinyn vardd doe tynid y Saison.  
 Wedi un estron y dinystrid. 32

Os geiriau o Von a 'sgrivenid,  
 A gwr o Wynedd a goronid ;  
 Ac o ryw *emprwr*, ac o Ririd Vlaidd,  
 O wraidd brenliniaidd brân a henwid. 30

Syr Rhys Nicolas a gavas govid,  
 Ac a yw varchawg a gyverchid ;  
 A'i vrân a'i darian deiryd, lin o lin,  
 I Harri vrenin lûr a vreinid. 40

O aelwyd Mon val y damunid  
 Y cad y ddwylin sy'n cyd ddilyd ;  
 O'r hen wreichionen penrlhwymid pob dadl ;  
 Ar yr un anadl yr ennynid. 44

A llew du'n aml y llwdn a ymlid,  
 Y milgi eilon mal y gwelid ;  
 Ar y gôg a'r dryw y gegid sy walch ;  
 A'r eryr sy walch ar yr ysmid. 48

30. *O dyrau Idwal*, "from the towers of Idwal." Idwal ab Meirig, a prince who succeeded to the sovereignty of Gwynedd, or North Wales, in the year 993.

31. *Heinyn*, the bard of Maelgwn Gwynedd, who flourished in the sixth century.

"Didst thou hear the saying of Heinyn,  
 The bard of the college of Llan-  
 veidîn :

The brave is never cruel."

41. *O aelwyd Mon*, "from Mona's hearth." An allusion to Edmund

Tudor, earl of Richmond, who was the son of Owain Tudor, of Penmynydd, in Anglesey.

Owain Tudor married Catherine of France, the queen dowager, mother of Henry VI. By whom he had two sons, namely, Edmund of Hadham, earl of Richmond ; and Jasper of Hatfield, earl of Pembroke. Edmund of Hadham, earl of Richmond, was the father of Henry VII.

47. *y gegid*, the bird called Witwal. See *Cegid* in Dr. W. O. Pughe's Diet.

A'r urddawl grasawl, a'i wayw yn llawn gwrîd,  
 Yw'r ddargadr a'r dderw a gedwid;  
 Eryr a brëyr lle briwid bwyall,  
 A llew ar eraill a oreurid. 52

Yn gâr i'w vrenin y gwir vreinid,  
 Ac i'w deyrnas yn gadernid;  
 A'r Gogledd diredd a dōrid, yn graf  
 Vo ei dyrau praf, ev a'u dirprid. 56

Aur am ei csgyll grym a wisgid,  
 A dur a wisgodd hyd yr esgid;  
 Gyda'r *Preins* Arthur y geded syr Rhys  
 I gadw yr ynys pan gydranid. 60

Vy curawg varchawg a gyverchid,  
 Vy urddawl grasawl ac a groesid;  
 Vo yr haelav, yr hav rhivid yn gyntav;  
 Vo yn ddiwaethav a vendithid. 64

Vo a ÿr *alwens*, yn ei vawrlid,  
 I'r dwr o Loegr wedi hir lygrid;  
 Enaid Brutaniaid mewn tid aur a main;  
 Ni wn o Lundain un un lendid. 68

Llyma'r vrân sidan lle gosodid,  
 Llyma ryw geiliog lle mawr goelid;  
 Llyma ladd y wadd lle'dd oeddid yn drwch,  
 Llyma hir heddwch, lle mawr haeddid. 72

Llyma vaedd nawwaedd y gyvnewid,  
 Llyma'r ŷch pengrych i ar pawb bid;  
 Llyma'r Saison llôn a'u llid yn methu;  
 Llyma holl Gymmru yn gwenu y gyd. 76

59. *Gyda'r Preins Arthur*, &c.  
 "To sir Rhys was committed the care  
 of prince Arthur." Sir Rhys was his  
 guardian. The prince was the eldest

son of Henry VII, and was named  
 Arthur, in honour of king Arthur.  
 He was born in the year 1486, and  
 died in 1502.

## XI.

## RHYVEL PLANT THOMAS, YN ABER MARLAIS.

THIS poem contains a very animated and, at the same time, a graphic description of a tournament feat exhibited by the sons and friends of Thomas ab Griffith ab Nicholas, at Aber Marlais. The whole scene is so ably and vividly portrayed as to give it the appearance of a real fight.

Tri llu a â trwy'r holl iaith,	
I vryn Oliver unwaith ;	
Tri llu aeth, er <i>treio</i> llyn,	
I lawesvraith o lasvryn.	4
Llu Morgan â'r darian dôn,	
Llu Harri vwyceill hirion.	
Llu Davydd, trydydd o'r tri,	
Draw 'n dyvod drwy hen Deivi ;	8
Blaenodd ar bobl ei ynys,	
Eithr ar ol ni thariai Rhys.	
Sion Mansel â'r pensel pur,	
Ei lu yntau val antur ;	12
Y ddau Vased oedd voesol,	
Y ddau Ryd oedd ar ei ol.	
Hopeyn ar lasvryn â'i laiv,	
Hwnw oedd val yr hynaiv.	16
Rhwng broder a chevnderoedd,	
Llu mawr oll, a mwyhau'r oedd ;	
Fw llu y bu maes ar ben,	
Val y maes vu i lu Moesen ;	20

XI. A poem commemorative of a tournament given at Aber Marlais, by the sons of Thomas ab Griffith ab Nicholas.

11. *Sion Mansel*, &c. The Mansels of Margam.

13. *Y ddau Vased* &c. The Bas-

sets of Eysyllt, or Bewpyr (Beauprè), near Cowbridge.

14. *Y ddau Ryd* &c. The Rudds of Aberglasney, near Llangathen.

19. *maes ar ben*, "a campaign on an eminence."

Ac wyth maner, gwaith menyg ;	
A thair brân yn eitha'r brig ;	
Trigain peled a rhagawr,	
Naw <i>gwens</i> val yn y Geins vawr ;	24
Naw gwart heblaw'r <i>Vowart</i> vu,	
A naw byddin heb weddu.	
Bwäau hirion hwynt bioedd,	
Bwäau crwys yn bicra oedd ;	28
Llewod a llu o waywawr,	
A llu maes o vwyell mawr ;	
A phan vu'r llu yn dair lleuad,	
Ar lasvryn tyddyn y tad ;	32
Y Dug a ddoeth dranoeth draw	
O ael Gwent a'i lu gantaw ;	
A'r Dug pan glybu wardâu	
Y lle hwnt â'u llu hwyntâu ;	36
Danvonodd o'i vodd e vo,	
Dewr atynt i <i>dretio</i> .	
Rhoi'n gadben vrawd y brenin,	
Rhanu i wyr hwnw win ;	40
Gwin gwyn anrhegion i gyd,	
Gwin havawg yno hevyd ;	
Osai i Gymmry vry'n y vron,	
Osai isod i Saison.	44
Cael o <i>wyrion</i> Nicolas	
Gevnau swrn rhag ovn y sias ;	
Odid o chyrch, o'i adwy,	
Un Sais Aber Marlais mwy :	48
Dywawd Merddin vlodeuyn	
Ddau hav y gorvyddai hyn ;	

22. *A thair brân*, &c. The arms of Owain ab Urien,—the badge of his descendants.

28. *Bwäau crwys*, cross bows.

31. *A phan vu'r llu*, &c. "When the army was formed into three crescents."

33. *Y Dug*, "the duke." *Here* one that represented a duke.

35. *gwardâu*, to guard ; to defend.

38. *tretio*, to treat for peace, or

amnesty, as in the case of a real fight.

42. *Gwin havawg*, "plenty of wine." *Yn havawg*, at all rates ; plentifully.

44. *Cael o wyrion*, &c. "The grandsons of Nicholas saw their antagonists turning their backs, and scouring off in all directions for fear of an engagement."

49. *dywawd*=*dywedodd*.

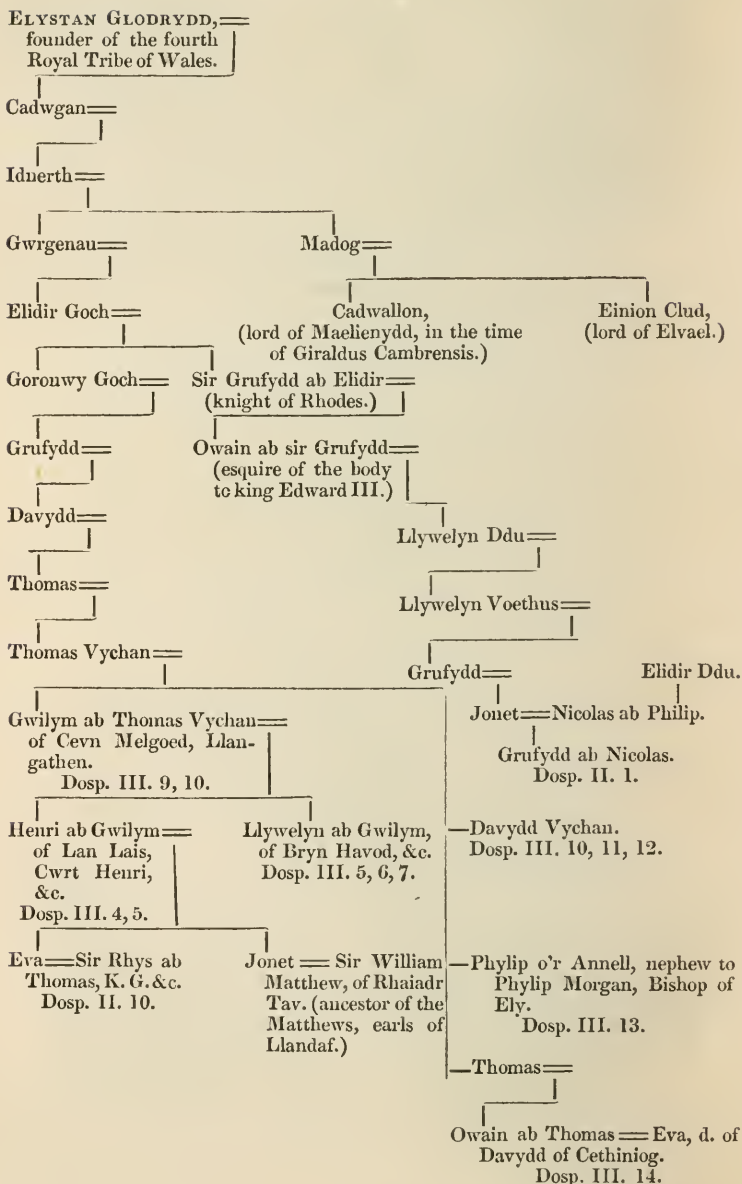
Ac y gwnai vrain, Owain oedd,	
Ryw waith mawr wrth y moroedd.	52
Gwnaethan' gâd yn mhob adwy,	
Gwaen' vyth y gynhen yn vwy;	
Hwy vo ar Benvro'n chwe ban,	
Hi a aeth yn "Hai weithian."	56
Aeth y wlad i lwyth Elidir,	
Aed Rhos oll at y tair Sir.	
A'r ordd drom meibion Tomas	
A roes cwypwres i'w cas;	60
Ac odid na ron' godwm	
Eto i rai a vo trwm.	

58. *Rhos*, a district in Pembrokeshire.

# DOSPARTH III.

## LLWYTH ELYSTAN GLODRYDD

### THE TRIBE OF ELYSTAN GLODRYDD.





G W A I T H  
LEWIS GLYN COTHI.  
DOSPARTH III.  
LLWYTH ELYSTAN GLODRYDD.

---

I.

AWDL I DDAVYDD LLWYD AB DAVYDD AB EINION,  
O DRE NEWYDD.

---

DAVID LLOYD, who is said to have sprung from Elystan Glodrydd, is represented as one that was given to charity, and one upon whom the smiles of Heaven rested; and also as one whose delight it was to be in the society of the good and the pious. The bard compares his readiness to go and see him to that of the hawk to return to the falconer. He, throughout the poem, dwells on the kindness and amiableness of David Lloyd's disposition; and mentions his devotedness to religious duties, and his many acts of generosity. He was, it is stated, in the habit, on the different festivals of the church, of giving splendid entertainments, when the bard with other minstrels was invited and sumptuously entertained; and the poor of the neighbourhood partook of his alms which he liberally bestowed. The bard, in order to describe the kindness, the generosity, and the wealth of his host, has recourse to many and beautiful similes, clothed and expressed in language both simple and neat.

This ode may be regarded as one of the most happy efforts of the bard in the *clera* composition.

---

DAVYDD LLWYD, deurudd llew tirion divalch,  
Ab Davydd ab Einion;  
Ab Hywel a'r meirch gwelwon,  
A roes ei aur i'r oes hon.

-4

1. An ode addressed to David Lloyd ab David ab Einion, of Newtown, Montgomeryshire.

Yr oes hon am a roes hwnt,  
 Ei Dduw a roes iddo *rent*;  
*Ysgwier* da i gerynt,  
*Ysgwieriaidd* wisg ariant. 8

Ei gàn a'i arian oedd ym, wŷr ydyw  
 Mareddydd ab Gwilym;  
 A ddyweto lle'dd ytyw  
 Drwy Geri oll ydyw'r grym. 12

Gwr grymus dawnus, o'i dŷ rhydd llawn,  
 Llin Elystan Glodrydd;  
 Gwr o'i phen a gâr y fydd  
 Gwyr dwyvawl a gâr Davydd. 16

Davydd Llwyd ydyw'r dovwr,  
 Dyvod ato nid over;  
 Deuvis ni bydd edivar,  
 Dwyvil yno y'n dovir; 20  
 Ei dai evo, rhwng deuvur,  
 A dyvo yn dai Ivor.

I'w dai ac i'w blas y deuav yr wyl  
 At Rolant, neu Vordav; 24  
 Cyn yr wyl yr amcanav  
 Wedi'r wyl i'w dai yr âv.

Mal yr â hebog at hebogydd  
 Awn at wŷr Einion i'r twr onwydd, 28  
 I ganu cywair o gan' cywydd;  
 I ganu awdl val y gwnai wawdydd,

6. *Ei Dduw a roes*, &c. "God repaid him for what he laid out in beneficence to others."

21. *Ei dai evo*, &c. That is, may his estates ever be in the possession of an Ivor. *Ivor*, a term for a generous person borrowed from Ivor Hael, or Ivor the generous. David Llwyd's estates are now in the possession of

his descendant, Rev. Geo. Arthur Evors, of Newtown Hall. The surname *Evors* was originally Ivor.

24. *Mordav* = Mordav Hael, a chieftain who lived about the close of the fifth century. He was celebrated with Rhydderch and Nudd, under the appellation of the three liberal princes of the isle of Britain.

- I dalu moliant uwch dolydd Havren,  
I drevnu awen i'r Drev Newydd. 32
- Troi a wn yno trwy Winionydd,  
Tair llys yw ei gwrth i'r lliosydd ;  
A thair dy'gwyl Vair yno a vydd,  
Tri Phase, tri Sulgwyn val pwynt o'r fydd, 36  
Tri Dyw Nadalig yw'r trydydd anwyl,  
Tair gŵyl yw pob gŵyl yn eu gilydd.
- Tri bwrdd y mae in' draw'n llaw'r llywydd,  
Tri byrddaid o wyr, trwy y byrddydd ; 40  
Tair saig wrth bob saig arnynt y sydd,  
Trinant a redant o wirodydd,  
Tri bwtler seler y sydd, yn wresog,  
Tri swyddog, a chôg, a thri chigydd. 44
- Ei arver ydyw, ŵyr Varedydd !  
I rai odidawg roi diodydd ;  
Rhoi cardawd i dlawd hyd ei wledydd,  
Rhoi llety i wawdwr, wr llwydd dedwydd ; 48  
Ac i wân torth gân gynnydd gwlad Bowys,  
Ac i ail Baradwys galw ei brydydd.
- Amlach i'n lyn, a'i lawenydd,  
No dwr i vyned i'r avonydd ; 52  
Amlach cân i wân a thân onwydd,  
No derw a main yn ngodre mynydd ;  
Yr aur oedd amlach no'r irwydd yn ddellt,  
No'r main ac no'r mellt, no'r gwellt a'r gwydd. 56
- Ei gerdd yn yr hav a gerdda'n rhydd  
Val niwl a gwynt ar vlaen newydd ;  
Son yno am dano vo a vydd  
Val gw lith a gwenith a brwyn gweunydd ; 60  
Val y daw gwlaw drwy'r gwlydd i'r bargod,  
Val y gwelid ôd, val goleu dydd.
- Ei henw a saiv, hyn sy uwydd,  
Tra vo byw adar, tra vo bedydd ; 64

Ei glod a heuir yn y gwledydd  
 Tra vo Caer Rhuvain, tra vo crevydd;  
 Tra vo haul a thê, tra vo hydd ar vron,  
 Tra vo yw ac òn, tra vo gwinwydd. 68

Mae i wŷr Einion yn Meirionydd  
 Wythawdl a deugain gan bob ieithydd;  
 O Vynyw hevyd i Vevenydd,  
 Oddi yna o Gaer i Eiddionydd; 72  
 O Gaer-yn-Arvon i geurydd Hodni,  
 Ac i Gaer Deivi mae gair Davydd.

72. o *Gacr* = o Gaervyrddin: Caer-  
 marthen. *Eiddionydd* = Eivionydd.

74. *Caer Deivi*, Aberteivi; Cardi-  
 gan.

## II.

## MARWNAD DAVYDD LLWYD, O DRE NEWYDD.

THE bard represents death as having gone, like a foe, to Cedewain, and as having succeeded in carrying away, in triumph, from thence a rich treasure,—the loss of which filled Newtown with grief, and the then existing bards with despair; or rather, to use the language of the poet, enveloped the town in a thick mist, and the bards in midnight darkness. He then enters into a detailed account of the excellency of David Lloyd's character,—as a gentleman, and the liberal patron of the bards. He concludes by complimenting Rhys, David Lloyd's son; and mentioning him as having succeeded to his father's property, he wishes him a long life to enjoy it.

GWAE'R wlad! gwac ryw lu o wyr!  
 Gwac lu arall o glerwyr!  
 Angeu Duw vu'n Nghedewain,  
 O'u trysawr hwy'n treisiaw'r rhai'n; 4  
 Doe'r aeth, er digter i wàn,  
 Davydd Llwyd i vedd llydan.  
 Niwl tew dros y Dre Newydd,  
 A nos i veirdd ein hoes vydd. 8

Vy nadsain am ŵyr Einion  
 A glyw y *Mars*, ac ael Mon.  
 Am hil M'redydd ab Gwilym  
 Mae Cymru heb dalu dym; 12  
 Ni rodded wedi ei wreiddio  
 Ysgwïer well is y gro;  
 Ni roi naw llaw o'r un llys,  
 A roi Ddavydd â'r ddeuvys: 16  
 Pob rhodd gynt a ddifoddes,  
 Heb na grym, na byw, na gwres.  
 Y gwr o aelwyd Geri,  
 Oedd hael, a'i hennynodd hi; 20

II. An elegy upon David Lloyd, descendant of Meredith ab Gwilym of Newtown, Montgomeryshire. Wales is nothing worth."

11. *Am hil*, &c. "Without this

Odid cael rhyhaél i'm rhôl,  
 Na wisgwyd yn ei ysgol;  
 Athraw vu'r penaeth ar vaine,  
 O'r Deau, i'r dô ieuaine; 24  
 A *siampler* i'r arveroedd,  
 A haul a drych haelder oedd.

Cynneddv gwyr ieuaine anwyl  
 Yn ei dai gynt, er nad Gŵyl;  
 Hyd y Nadolig trigo 28  
 Od aem Wyl Vair i'w deml vo;  
 Aros Pasc vu'n tasg, a'n taith,  
 Ac yn ol Sulgwyn eilwaith. 32  
 Heddyw'r awn heb wahoddion  
 I wylaw dwr vâl y dôn;  
 Aeth gant, ar unwaith, o gudd  
 I dâl dwvr deulu Davydd. 36  
 Trosto, am arwain tristyd,  
 Trwy boen yr aethent o'r byd;  
 Teulu i Ddavydd vuom,  
 Trist am hwn vyddwn tra vom. 40  
 I noddyn y glaslyn glas  
 Aed beirdd, am nad byw urddas.

Aeth Davydd, gwawdydd, drwy gôr,  
 I nevoedd o vlaen Ivor; 44  
 Velly gwnaeth, vy llew gwÿn iawn,  
 Ivor wÿn vry o Einiawn.  
 Gyru at Dduw'n un gerynt,  
 Gwr o gerdd a garai gynt; 48  
 A rhyw vynag Rhuveiniol  
 Y doi i'r nev draw'n ei ol.

25. *siampler* = samplar, a pattern, a model: *cynllun*.

43. *Aeth Davydd*, &c. The bard states here that as David, the poet, died before his patron Ivor Hael; so, in like manner, did Howell Swrddwal die before his patron David Lloyd.

If the bard alluded, as above, to David ab Gwilym, it must have been an oversight of his; for he (David ab Gwilym) survived his patron Ivor

Hael, and wrote a very pathetic elegy upon his death. See in David ab Gwilym's works, p. xix. of the preface, an account of a false report, which, during Ivor's life, had been circulated of the poet's death. This report may have been believed by our author.

49. *mynag*. Here an anticipation, a presentiment.

Swrddwal, trwy gartrev nevoedd,  
 Prydu i Dduw pob pryd ydd oedd; 52  
 Prydu, val y bu'n y hyd,  
 Glod Davydd, cael *gilt* hevyd.

Davydd oedd Gaer Ludd y wlad,  
 A'i gwayw aur, a'i hagoriad; 56  
 Rhys ei vab, lle rhoes ei vedd,  
 Yw Twr Gwèn hyd tir Gwynedd.  
 Unben, un wreichionen rydd,  
 Ytyw ev o waed Davydd: 60  
 Ni ddifydd na dydd, na dawn,  
 Tân òn etewyn Einiawn.  
 Y lle yr aeth Davydd Llwyd  
 Oedd brivfordd Davydd brophwyd; 64  
 Aeth at lu'r Iesu rasol,  
 Aeth Rhys yn benaeth ar ol;  
 Aeth ev i'r nev, ei rà'n oedd,  
 Aed i Rys dair o oesoedd. 68

54. *gilt*, a contribution.

56. *a'i hagoriad*, "and its key, or moving principle."

57. *lle rhoes ei vedd*, "where he dis-

pensed his mead, or metheglin."

62. *Tân òn*, &c. "A blaze from the flambeaux of Einiwn."



## III.

## I RYS AB DAVYDD LLWYD, YSWAIN.

---

RICE ab David Lloyd, of the tower of Baldwyn, is addressed, in this ode, as an esquire; as king Edward's steward of the lordships of Cedewain, Kerry, Cyveiliog, and Arwystli; and also as being a Justice of peace. The greatest portion, however, of the ode is taken up in describing him in the character of a distinguished and powerful warrior.

---

YN nhŵr Baldwyn es dwynnos,  
Mynwn y mod mewn un mis;  
Yno i *sizwrneio* nes  
Ev â wellwell vy wyllys.

4

Vy wyllys am bryd trwy Vallwyd y troes,  
At Rys ab Davydd Llwyd;  
*Ysgwier*, val Clêr ab Clwyd;  
A gynneiliai gan' aelwyd;

8

III. An ode addressed to Rice ab David Lloyd, of Montgomery castle, and Newtown. He was thirteenth in lineal descent from Elystan Glodrydd, whose arms, quartered with those of his son Cadwgan, are still borne by most of the branches of this family.

1. *Tŵr Baldwyn*, Baldwyn's castle; but now called Montgomery castle after Hugh Montgomery, earl of Arundel and Salop, who took the town and castle in 1092.

5. *Mallwyd*, a village, near Dinas Mawddwy, on the Machynlleth road. Dr. John Davies, author of the Welsh-Latin Dictionary, was rector of Mallwyd in the reign of queen Elizabeth. There is now in the possession of the honourable Mr. Justice Bosanquet a MS. containing a number of poems addressed to the doctor by the bards of his time.

7. *Ysgwier* = esquire; armour-bearer: yswain. Rice ab David Lloyd was esquire of the body to king Edward IV. He was a staunch Yorkist, and was rewarded for his services by Edward appointing him governor of Montgomery castle. The appointment however seems to have been only for Rice's life; for Henry VIII., soon after his accession to the throne, granted the castle, and its dependencies, to his gentleman usher of the privy chamber, sir Richard Herbert, knight, who after this appointment was generally styled sir Richard Herbert, of Montgomery. The estates are now possessed by his descendant, the lord Viscount Clive. Sir Richard was the second son of sir Richard Herbert, of Coalbrook, knight. See Dosp. I. 20.

*Clêr ab Clwyd*, a character in the *Chwedlau* of former times.

Aelwydau'n Neau yn ei wart, a'i ran,  
 A ry'r brenin Edwart ;  
 A'i ddaed ev i nyddu dart,  
 Nosiau da i'n *ysdiwart* ! 12

*Ystiwart* dwywart Cedewain, Ceri ;  
 Cariad Yuys Prydain ;  
 Erchwyniog Cyveiliog vain,  
 A dwy Arwystl ; a'r dwyrain. 16

Maen glain o'r dwyrain diredl ytyw Rhys ;  
 Maen wttreswyr Gwynedd ;  
 Mab Davydd, maen muchudd medd,  
 Mae'n Ustus yma'n eistedd. 20

Eistedd mae'r gwledydd yn wastad dan Rys,  
 Dan yr un egoriad ;  
 Pedwar o gloi pedair gwlad,  
 A thwr eglur a theirgwlad. 24

Teirawdl a ddygav, drwy'r wlad derwŷn,  
 I '*stiwart* Edwart fordd yr adwyn ;  
 Mal y tri brenin divlin yn dwyn,  
 Yn eu tair covlaid, y tri cyvlwyn. 28

Dan ewinedd Rhys gwlad Wenwynwyn  
 A dry, ac eilwaith hyd ar Golwyn ;  
 Dan ei droed o goed plwyv Llangedwyn,  
 Y bo yn deilwng, hyd Bendeulwyn. 32

13. *Ystiwart*, &c. = a steward : go-  
 ruchwyliwr.

Besides being appointed governor  
 of Montgomery castle, we learn from  
 this ode that he was also constituted  
 steward of the lordships of Cedewain,  
 Kerry, Cyveiliog, and Arwystli.

27. *Mal y tri brenin*, &c. An allu-  
 sion to the three wise men of the  
 east presenting their offerings, &c. to

Christ.

29. *gwlad Wenwynwyn*, " the  
 land of Gwenwynwyn : " Powysland.  
 Gwenwynwyn, the son of Owain  
 Cyveiliog, was a chieftain of Powys  
 in the beginning of the thirteenth  
 century.

32. *Pendeulwyn*, a parish in the  
 hundred of Cowbridge, Glamorgan-  
 shire.

Lle sango ei droed evo ar dwyn,  
 Llawer gwr arvawg i'r marchawg mwyn;  
 Llawer gwâl naddvaen i'r gwr addwyn;  
 Llawer gwayw esgud, llawer Gwasgwyn. 36

Saethau o'i dyrau sydd yn dirwyn  
 Cylch ei drev, mor grev â threv y Grwyn;  
 Gŷnau a glywir hav a gwanwyn,  
 Yn mrig ei gaeroedd val môr gerwin. 40

Mae'n dovi gwylliaid llonaid pob llwyn;  
 Mae'n diva lladron mewn dwy avwyn;  
 Mae'n rhwymaw'r ddwywlad mewn un gadwyn;  
 Yn mhenau rhai from y mae'n rhoi frwyn. 44

Y brenin Edwart bob rhyw wanwyn,  
 Ev â ei ergyd drwy wlad Vyrwyn;  
 Ev â ry'n y Nordd ddyrnod orddwŷn,  
 Yni gysgo Gien a Gasgwyn. 48

A Rhys ar ei ol, a'i wayw'n un olwyn,  
 Yn bwrw Francod uchod wrth gychwyn;  
 Yn ymlid â'i *wens aliwens* val ŵyn;  
 Yn defol Saison breision val brwyn. 52

Unllaw blaen Havren lle bu Wenwyn,  
 Unllaw a gorchest, unllaw ac erchwyn;  
 Unllavn yn Ngheri a'i harianllwyn;  
 Unllys Cedewain a'i breninllwyn. 56

E ddeil Ysgotiaid rhwng pob deil-lwyn,  
 E drwsia Gwyddel wedi'r aswyn;  
 Ev â cillia'r pen dan avall-lwyn;  
 Ev â dŷr ei wallt evo, a'i drwyn. 60

38. *Grwyn* = Gaveren, a town in Belgium, situated on the Scheldt.

53. *Wenwyn* = Wenwynyn. See line 29.

Ev yw'r pendevig o Veirig vwyn;  
 Ev yw'r pen-cadben i dderbyn cwyn;  
 Ev yw pen-cynghor cylch Dôl Vorwyn,  
 Val y bu Oldal yn nhŵr Baldwyn.

64

63. *Dôl Vorwyn*, Dôl y Vorwyn castle, in Montgomeryshire, now in ruins. It was built, according to Dugdale, by prince David ab Llywelyn; but, according to the Welsh writers, it was built by Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, between the years 1065 and 1073. At the conquest of Wales, Edward I. granted it to Roger de Mortimer, who had caused the garrison of prince Llywelyn to surrender for want of water.

64. *Oldal*, most probably a corruption of *Arundel*. The bard's meaning appears to be this, namely, that he wished the readers of his ode to understand that the authority of his hero was so great at Dôl y Vorwyn, as once was that of Hugh Montgomery, earl of Arundel, at Baldwyn's castle, which, after he had taken it, he fortified and called it after his own name.

## IV.

I HENRI AB GWILYM AB TOMAS VYCHAN,  
O GETHINIOG, YN NGLAN TYWI.

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THE bard acknowledges Henry ab Gwilym's liberality towards him—mentions his descent from Goronwy Goch and Elystan Glodrydd,—and after that, through the rest of the poem, he speaks of his superior skill in the exercise of the spear and the sword, as well as of his undaunted courage as a warrior.

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PA Gymmro'n gwreiddo o vewn grym wythwyr ;  
Eithr Henri ab Gwilym ?  
Ai annewr y llew einym ?  
Ai mwy 'stôr iarll no'r meistr ym ? 4

Eriod imi ŵyr Domas  
Aur o'i eiddaw a rodde ;  
Ev, eithr Llywelyn Voethus,  
Vu orau ei gyvarws ; 8  
Ac o wlad Gethiniog lys  
Yn mro Dywi mae'r dewis.

IV. An ode addressed to Henry ab Gwilym ab Thomas Vaughan, of Cethiniog, Caermarthenshire.

Henry ab Gwilym built Court Henry, in Caermarthenshire, which was called after his name, his family having lived before at a place in that neighbourhood, called Llan Lais. He is said (in the Camb. Reg. vol. i. p. 66.) to be "a gentleman of an ancient lineage, welthie and full of magnanimitie," and, in person tall and well built. He was a determined and unyielding opponent of Thomas ab Griffith, and was the first that provoked him in duel. They fought, it is said, eight if not ten different duels; but Thomas ab Griffith was always declared victor.

The animosity that existed between these two rival champions was so

great, that it involved both families for a long time in mutual feuds, and hate of each other. A reconciliation however was at last effected between the two houses, by sir Rhys ab Thomas, after his father's death, marrying Eva, the daughter and heiress of Henry ab Gwilym.

There is a poem, in the Gorchestion Beirdd Cymru, commemorative of Henry ab Gwilym ab Thomas, probably the subject of the present poem, together with one Owain, being taken prisoner by the Lancastrians, and confined in Harlech castle, until they were, both of them, released by the Yorkists under the earl of Pembroke, in 1468.

9. *Cethiniog*, a comot in Caermarthenshire.

Ei ddewis ydd wyv o ddeuwr deilwng  
 O dalaeth Dineuwr ; 12  
 O Elystan ar gannwr,  
 O Ronwy Goch yr un gwr.

Ev yw'r gwr a fwrw gwerin,  
 Os gwr a wisgai arian ; 16  
 Ym Sant Grigor ! ni'm dorwn  
 Euraw'r gwr â'r aerwy gwÿn.

Gwÿn ei vyd undyn, yn ei wendid,  
 A gatwo Henri a'r gwayw tân wrîd ; 20  
 Yn oen, neu'n angel, ev a welid,  
 Ei eiriau gwrawl vry a gerid ;

Ei wayw, a'i lavn, a'i law a ovnid,  
 Ev a âi yn Lew pan v'ai'n ei lid ; 24  
 Ymladdwr ydyw od ymleddid,  
 Wedi'r ymladd e dro i ymlid :

Llyna ei arver lle *concwërid*  
 Llidio ei Wasgwyn lle y dysgid ; 28  
 Newidio gwewyr pan gyfröid,  
 Darnu ei weywyr wedi'r newid ;

Rhoi aur, a dàl herwyr a'u dilyd,  
 Y mae y *sierjv* o mesurid, 32  
 Bob ddau, bob dri, 'n eu dodî wrth did,  
 Amÿnu dadl i'r mân y dodid :

Y gwr â'r swyddan, lle gorseddîd,  
 A esyl ei aur a ystorid, 36  
 Ar gestyll hevyd er a gostid ;  
 Ac ar dyrau praf, ac ar dir prid.

Iaspar wayw llachar, mÿn bedd Llechîd !  
 O dir Gwynedd y darongenid ; 40

17. *Sant Grigor*, Saint Gregory.

39. *Llechîd*, the daughter of Ithel  
 Hael o Lydaw, a saint who lived in

the beginning of the sixth century, to  
 whom there is a church dedicated in  
 Carnarvonshire.

Henri a'i deulu'n hir a'u dilyd  
A'i wayw du llyvn wedi y llivid :

Cadben yw Henri hyd Elenid,  
Ei sawdwyr o gylch a osodid ; 44  
Yn ei ol gweywyr a anelid,  
Miliwn o vwäau, mal na veïid.

O vlaen y lluoedd a gyvlenwid  
Ev a â eilwaith pan ryvelid, 48  
Ev a â, cryr cryv a eurid !  
O vlaen ei adar val ei nodid.

Ev a dyv derwen lle y plênid  
Uwchlaw y derw uchel a dòrid ; 52  
E dyvodd Henri, lle'n gwahoddid,  
Uwchlaw undyn ucho o lendid.

O garu cerddawr, lle rhagorid,  
O roi i gerddwyr ag a urddid, 56  
O vynu y blaen ev a enwid ;  
O vonedd hevyd, pan ovynid.

O allu dilys lle y dylid,  
O roi ei allu er a ellid ; 60  
O daraw wellwell yn ei drallid,  
O dòri ònen a draienid,  
Hyny o gampau, wedi y rhanid,  
Henri a'u dyly ar Gymmry gyd. 64



## V.

I LLYWELYN A HENRI AB GWILYM, O LAN TYWI;  
AC I'R AVON.

LLYWELYN is mentioned as living on one side of the river Towy, and his brother Henry on the other side. After saying this, the bard alludes to the patriotism and the advancing prosperity of the two brothers. And then he reminds them of his having foretold their future greatness, and that at the time when he was in the habit of relating to them, over the wine, the history of Brutus, and other ancient stories, as well as occasionally reciting songs of former days, giving an account of men who lived in times long gone by.

The bard now takes up the third subject of his poem, namely, the river Towy. He commences by expressing his regret that so large a body of water, which is seldom passable, should separate the mansions of the two brothers. After mentioning the river as rising from two sources, he gives an animated description of it during flood-time—such as its great width—the mighty havoc it then commits in uprooting and carrying along with it trees of every size and description, as well as corn, hay, &c. He then mentions his inability to swim, as well as his fear to cross it in a coracle; and concludes with an earnest wish to live long enough to see a bridge thrown over it.

O Dduw ! ys da o ddeuwr,  
 Sy'n anneddu deutu'r dwr ;  
 Llywelyn, erchwyn ein iaith,  
 Un rhywl yw Henri eilwaith ; 4  
 Dau vroder, un gryvder grym,  
 Dwy wâl i'r wlad o Wilym ;  
 Deuvur Tomas ab Davydd,  
 A gauai'r wlad yn Gaer Ludd ; 8  
 Ev aeth ŵyrion Goronwy  
 O vlaen mil, viliwn a mwy.

V. Addressed to Llywelyn ab Gwilym and his brother Henry. Llywelyn lived at Bryn Havod, on the south of the river Towy, opposite Aber Marlais; and Henry at Llan Lais; but afterwards at Court Henry, in the vale of Towy, which mansion he built, and called it, as has been

already noticed, after his own name.

Arms: parted per Bend gules and azure; cross, or thereon five crescents argent.

4. *rhywl* = rhyw, of the same kind, or kindred: a chip of the same block.

8. *Gaer Ludd*, London.

Ar gân y darogenais	
Lenwi y wlad o Làn Lais ;	12
O dderwen Llan Gathen gynt	
Imp wedi'r impiaw ydynt ;	
Llywelyn yw'n himpyn ni,	
A'r unrhyw wr yw Henri.	16
Yved eu gwin, ryw vyd gynt,	
Yn mhob awr im'a berynt ;	
A mynegi, mỳn Iago !	
Ystoriau Brutus o Dro ;	20
A hen gerdd a henwau gwyr,	
A rhieni yr henwyr ;	
Ba les, rhwng deublas y rhai'n,	
Mae'r dwr mwya' o'r dwyrain ?	24
Porth Duw bobparth i Dywi,	
Porthva yr hindda yw hi ;	
Ei deupen, mal llanw Menai,	
Llenwi yn un llyn a wnai ;	28
Llanw o vôr allan a vydd,	
Lliv enaint oll o vynydd.	
Yr oedd, llyma'r arwyddion,	
Arver hael ddigriv ar hon ;	32
A'i lliv a ddyco o'r llall,	
Hi a'i dyry i'r wlad arall ;	
<i>Hwswi</i> yw hi wedi hyn,	
A'i <i>hwswiaeth</i> dros ÷wyn ;	36
Ei lliv a ddwg, ar ei lled,	
Yd a gwair hyd y gored ;	
Oddiyno mudo i'r môr	
Y derw, rhwng ei dau oror ;	40
Diwrciddiaw, cwympaw y coed,	
A goresgyn y gwrysgoed ;	
Is y tai y dengys Tywi	
Maint yw lled ei mantell hi.	44
Mam lliveiraint berwnaint bas,	
Morgymmlawdd amrygamlas ;	

Merch i avon Iorddonen,	
Mordwy hwy no lliv Noe hen ;	48
Ystred dros vaesdir ydyw,	
Ystryd yn vy rhwystro yw ;	
Tebig, pan v'wyv heb ddigiaw,	
I dderdri wyv ar ddwr draw ;	52
Ev nid âi, rhag ovn y dòn,	
I dir nev drwy un avon ;	
Nid av vi i Dywi, val dall,	
Neu ddwr gwineuddu arall ;	56
Noviaw, mỳn Pedr ! nis medrais	
Yn monwes hon mwy no Sais ;	
Ni charav, mwy no'r ddavad,	
Gwrwgl byr gwargul, a bad ;	60
Mae'm bryd yn ddiwyd, ryw ddydd,	
Dramwy yuo drwy'r mynydd ;	
O Dduw ! rhoed einioes i'r ddau,	
Os mỳn, rhoed oes i minnau ;	64
Ac eisoes, yn ein oes ni,	
Y tro Duw bont ar Dywi.	

## VI.

I LLYWELYN AB GWILYM AB TOMAS VYCHAN,  
BRYN HAVOD.

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It appears from this poem that the bard was in the constant habit of going to Bryn Havod from his earliest infancy; and that as he advanced in years he was ever a welcome visitor there. He tells us of Llywelyn's kindness and attention to him when yet a child—also of the continuance of that kindness—and what delightful pleasure he always found in being present at his table; and the great reluctance with which he always left his hospitable mansion. These effusions of his heart the bard couches under similes, and in language full of tenderness. He next alludes to Llywelyn's entertaining the bards at the different festivals of the church; and, in that character, he applies to him the epithet of Ivor of Bryn Havod. He concludes by wishing him, in his career of goodness, the enjoyment of a long life,—a life more lengthened than the age of the stag, or the duration of the oak.

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Mi av at Nudd Bryn Havod,  
 Gyda hwn mynwn vy mod ;  
*Llywelyn*, derwyn val dâr,  
*Ab Gwilym* heb gau alwar ; 4  
 Wyr i *Domas* ddiareb,  
*Vychan* yw : A vu uwch neb ?  
 Wyr Iohn ab Gruffydd o'r iaith  
 Yw'r hael y sy'n rhoi eilwaith ; 8  
 Ni'm gadai â'i vwnai'n vud,  
 Nag i wylaw serch golud ;  
 A'i aur, a'i vedd, y gŵyr vo  
 Voneddig vy nyhuddo. 12  
 Un sir wyv a mab gwirion  
 A ro ei vryd ar y vron ;

VI. Addressed to Llywelyn ab Gwilym ab Thomas Vaughan, of Bryn Havod. 1. *Nudd*, a term of compliment to Llywelyn ab Gwilym.

Mi a roes ar hwn vy mryd,	
Mi a'i rhov, mÿn Mair ! hevydd ;	16
E'm magodd â'i rodd ddi rus,	
E'm gwnaeth yn vab maeth moethus.	
Moethusach mewn maeth iso	
Wy' ar ei vwrdd a'i aur vo ;	20
No'r pysg yn mysg heli'r môr,	
No Davydd ar <i>vord</i> Ivor ;	
No mab mam ar ei vamaeth,	
No merch ar ei dynion maeth.	24
Yr avanc er ei ovyn	
Wyv yn llech ar vin y llyn ;	
O dòn Llyn Syvaddon vo	
Ni thynwyd ban aeth yno :	28
Ni'm tÿn mèn nag ychain gwaith,	
Oddiyma heddyw ymaith.	
Mÿn v'enaïd ! ni'm caïd un cam	
Yr ŵyl oiwrth garw Wiliam.	32
Syrthiav wedi'r hav er llyn,	
Yr ail ŵyl ar Lywelyn ;	
Gydag ev y cartrevav	
Nev yn ei gartrev a gav.	36
Rhiv sÿr o gerddwyr a gaid	
Yn nevoedd ei henaviaïd,	
Pasc, Sylgwyn, hwy vyny'n' vod	
Yn nhai Ivor Bryn Havod.	40
Ystwyll, Calan, ar làn Lais,	
Nadalig ar làn Dwylais ;	
Cornel o dai Llywelyn	
Yw'r tair llys er treïaw llyn.	44
Hÿn vo Llywelyn o'r llys	
No derwen o'r Wèn Ynys ;	
No'r ddâr, (hòno yw'r dderwen,)	
No'r hydd a âi yn rhy hen.	48

22. *Davydd* = Davydd ab Gwilym, the bard of Ivor Hael.

27. *Llyn Syvaddon*, (written also *Savaddon*, and *Savaddan*), from which issues the little river Llynnwy, in the county of Brecon, near Tal-

garth, is the largest lake in South Wales.

46. *Wèn Ynys*, the isle of Britain. *I' Wèn Ynys* was one of its original appellations.

Mae y bêl mab i Wilym  
Mewn ei law, mae yn elw ym ;  
Ni ŵyr, pan ddelai yn nes,  
Roi nâg i wr o'i neges ; 52  
Ni wyddwn innau addev  
I Dduw a dyn ei ddaed ev :  
Ei dda vyth a roddai vo ;  
A daed oedd ! da Duw iddo. 56

## VII.

I LYWELYN AB GWILYM AB TOMAS VYCHAN,  
BRYN HAVOD.

THIS ode is in praise of the splendid establishment which *Lywelyn ab Gwilym* kept. In his house, it is said, there was no lack of any thing which could contribute to the comfort of the bard. The number of visitors who frequented the house is reported to be overflowing. But throughout the poem, the bard, as it were, wrapt up in himself, speaks of the friendly terms on which he stood with *Lywelyn*, and how attached they were the one to the other.

PA dŷ o Gymmru a ddwg ym lawer ?  
Tŷ Lewis ab Gwilym.  
Pand da yw'r tŷ yma ym ?  
Pand hwn yw'r pen tŷ einym ? 4

Pen tŷ ŵyr Tomas, pen tŷ irwydd serch ;  
Pen tŷ Sion ab Gruffydd ;  
Pen tŷ clod a diodydd,  
Pand hwn yw vo ? pand hŷn vydd ? 8

Hyn yma a gav, hen ammod a wnav,  
Gan Ivor Bryn Havod ;  
Hen aur ym, val rhanu'r ôd,  
Hyn oedd dda a hen ddiod. 12

Diod rhag syched, diwyd giniawa,  
Bwyd rhag newyn hevyd ;  
Dillad a thân rhag anwyd,  
A da bath lonaid y byd. 16

VII. An ode addressed to the same *Lywelyn ab Gwilym ab Thomas*, of *Bryn Havod*.

2. *Lewis*, an abbreviated term of endearment for *Lywelyn*, or (as some

contend the word should be written) *Llewelyn*. Such also is *Iolo* for *Iorwerth* ; *Huw* (*Dosp.* III. 15. line 44. &c.) for *Hywel* ; *Ned* for *Edward*, &c.



Y byd o ddynion val i'r badd a â  
 Oddiyna i'r noddva nadd ;  
 Deg ddengwaith tair iaith, un radd,  
 Naw nawwaith aen' i'w neuadd. 20

Vy lle'n ei neuadd sy gyvaddas,  
 Vy ngwely gwedy 'doi â gadas  
 Vy euraw â *chloth* o Varras a wnai,  
 Vy nhai yw ei dai, nai Eneas ! 24

Carav Vryn Havod val priodas,  
 A'i llaw, a'i harddwrn oll, a'i hurddas ;  
 Cariad Eliwlad (pan las) ar ei wlad ;  
 Cariad y gleisiad ar y môr glas. 28

Ni rown Lywelyn gan vaint ei ras,  
 Er tyrau Gwynedd, er tir Gwanas ;  
 Nid rhaid ym wrth nerth un tras, nac un clud ;  
 Nid rhaid rhŷd o'r byd ar y dwr bas. 32

Ei garu mae ei deuluwas,  
 Egoriad rhyvel a gwayw eirias ;  
 Galwer yn Emrys mewn golau wydrin,  
 A minnau'n Verddin main ei varddas. 36

Evo a'm galwai i'n Elias,  
 A mi a'i galwai vo'n Vathias ;  
 Ev vry a'm galwai'n Adda Vras hynav,  
 Evo a alwav innau'n Velwas. 40

Pob tir o Wynedd, pob tēyrnas,  
 A edwyn ; ei blwyv a'i dai'n ei blas ;  
 Pob dyn, Llywelyn waywlas, a'i govyn  
 Val y govyn dyn fordd i'r Dinas. 44

17. *badd*, see Dr. W. O. Pughe's Dict.

22. *cadas*, what is used for binding ; fillet : galloon.

23. *â chloth o Varras*, "with the cloth (tapestry) of Arras."

31. *clud*=câr clud, collateral relative in the fourth degree.

35. *golas*, see Dr. W. O. Pughe's Dict.

42. *a'i dai yn ei blas*, "and the apartments in his mansion."

Ni'm lluddiai i'w dai holl wlad Euas,  
Na llyn o Deivi, na llanw divas ;  
Na tharan, neu dân, na dinas gaerawg ;  
Na draig ewinawg, na dur gwynias. 48

Ni'm tynai Arthur yn ei guras,  
Na mên, nag ychain, na gwr, na gwas ;  
Na dim, er ei nerth, mwy na das o'i waith,  
Aw'r o'i dai ymaith, eryr Domas ! 52

Wyr Domas Vychan lle rhoed ymy gân  
Yw'r gwr gorau'n Nghymru ;  
Aed vy mendith i'w drithy,  
Ac nid êl led gwaun o'i dŷ. 56

## VIII.

I WILYM AB TOMAS VYCHAN, O GEVN MELGOED,  
LLAN GATHEN.

THE bard opens his poem by introducing to our notice the subject of it in the noble character of a hero, as well as a generous dispenser of metheglin ; and also as a gentleman possessing great territory in South Wales. He ranks him the foremost in the performance of every kind of athletic games peculiar to his country. He, after this, mentions his good management in domestic affairs ; and the high esteem in which he was held by all the neighbourhood. And concludes by again alluding to the valour, the great personal strength, and high stature, of his hero.

Y cwr hir a'r gwayw o'r rhest  
Yn ei gyrch a wna gorchest ;  
Wiliam un hyd Sal'mon hen,  
A bair gwaith uwch bro Gathen ; 4  
Yn ei vraich, val naw o Vran,  
Y saiv awch Tomas Vychan.  
Yn mueilgyrn Cevn Melgoed  
Y bu'r medd i bawb ermoed ; 8  
A Davydd vu'r hydd a'i rhoes,  
Ei wŷr Wiliam yr eiloes.

*Sieb Dŵr* Tomas ab Davydd  
A dâl ei wyr hyd Gaer Ludd ; 12  
Wiliam a dâl mwy o dir  
Hyd y hedwyn Deheudir.

VIII. Addressed to William ab Thomas Vaughan, of Cevn Melgoed, in the parish of Llan Gathen. He was the father of Henry ab Gwilym of Court Henry.

Llan Gathen (Cathan), a parish and church in the Vale of Towy, Caermarthenshire. Saint Cathan was the son of Cawrdav ab Caradog Vreichvras. He lived about the com-

mencement of the seventh century.

1. *gwayw o'r rhest*, the spear is taken from the *rest*, that is, its place of support, when the cavalier charges his foe.

11. *Sieb Dŵr* &c. that is, the mansion of Thomas, the descendant of David, resembled a place of entertainment like that of a hotel in Dover.

Gronwy Goch, gorau un gwr,  
Y dan avel Dinevwr ; 16  
Wiliam goch, helmawg ei wyr,  
Sy â hwnw un synwyr.

Dyg bedair camp ar hugain,  
Hyddgarw hir a ddygai'r rhai'n. 20  
Pedair priggamp o'i hydab,  
A wnaï evo er yu vab ;  
Saethu, neidio tyno teg ;  
Yn nwr rhŷd noviaw ; rhedeg : 24  
Ev ar ugain overgamp  
Yw un clo yn cau, a lamp.  
Deg dyddan, un amcan oedd,  
Deg gwrawl i gadw caeroedd. 28  
Un gamp ar ugain a gaid,  
Bwrw llawvaen, a bâr llivaid ;  
Marchogaeth meirch cogawr,  
Ymavael cwmp mae val cawr. 32  
Ar ei hol, pedwar helynt,  
Derw ar ros dwr awyr ynt ;  
Belöod, pysgod bob pâr,  
Ceirw oediawg, a rhyw adar. 36

Daly *hæstwald* drwy wroldeb,  
Llyna a wna'n well no neb.  
Ei wyth barc a byrth y byd,  
Wyth gan' erw, wyth gae enyd, 40  
Wyth o erwydd wrth warae,  
O wenith coch yn wyth cae.  
E dâl o'i gryd i elawr,  
Wilym wŷth o Veli mawr ; 44

21. *hydab*=hydeb, boldness.

30. *bâr llivaid*, "a pointed, or sharpened, iron bar."

31. *meirch cogawr*, "horses of salmon-like activity."

37. *Daly hæstwald*, "a good manager of a family."

39. *a byrth*=a bortha.

41. *erwydd*=erwi: acres of land.

Ei air y sydd val dwr swyn, O dir Islont i'r D'ryslwyn. A'r Ddwylais urdd yw Wiliam, I Allt y Gaer llew di gam ;	48
Oferen lân dyfryn Lais, A phren dail dyfryn Ddwylais ; Dâr o nev yw'n daiar ni, A dart aur Ystrad Tywi ;	52
A glaiv o'r hynaiv y rhawg, A thân-wayw i Gethiniawg. Mwy yw elin i'r milwr Nog Elin deg o Lyn Dwr ;	56
Mwy yw brig ei lymwayw bras No miliwn o wayw Melwas. Hir yw Wiliam val Rholant, Hwy no gwr heno o gant ;	60
Hwy no hir yw hwn o hyd, Aed hirhoedl at ei wrhyd.	

46. *D'ryslwyn*, Dyryslwyn castle. The ruins of this castle are still seen overhanging the river Towy, not far from those of Dinevwr castle.

54. *A thân-wayw* &c. that is, a spearman that would strike fire from the target of the foe.

55. *Mwy yw elin* &c. that is, the elbow is of great use in the management of the *safwy* (a pike or lance) in a horse combat : yea, of greater assistance upon such occasion than

fair Ellen of Glyn Dwr.

*Glyn Dwr*, a name of a place in Caermarthenshire.

58. *Melwas*, a fabulous character in the Mabinogion.

59. *Rholant* = Orlando of Romance.

62. *gwrhyd*, a stature ; a man's length ; a fathom, or two yards. William is said (line 61) to be *hwy no hir*, that is, above the general stature of man.

## IX.

AWDL O VAWL I GWILYM VYCHAN, O GETHINIOG, AC  
I WENLLIAN EI WRAIG, AC I DAVYDD EU MAB.

THE bard represents himself as being at the mansion of Gwilym Vaughan ludicrously dressed in a loose coat of mail. On this occasion he avails himself of the opportunity of writing the present ode in praise of his patron; addressing, at the same time, complimentary verses to his wife and also to their son. He speaks highly of the three, and particularly of Gwenllian, who is described as being unremitting in her attention to the numerous poor who flocked around her for relief.

YSMALA ydwyv mewn crys melan llaes,  
Yn llys Gwilym Vychan;  
Gwŷn yw lliw llys Gwenllian,  
Llys yw a gaif llesu gwàn. 4

I'r gwàn yr âi gàn, ac ym yr eilwaith,  
Aer Wiliam ab Gwilym!  
Byw'n gywir iawn, bob un grym,  
Ar ei adav yr ydym. 8

Byw'n rym yr ydym ar wirodydd llyn;  
Llin Tomas ab Davydd!  
Gwenllian, llin Vorgan, vydd  
Ein holl win a'n llawenydd. 12

Llawenydd yw *Davydd* deg,  
*Ab Gwilym* yn mhob golwg;  
O Gaio braf, ac o'i brig,  
Hithau ynys Gethiniog. 16

Trumog Cethiniog, wrth ddewiniaw'n iawn,  
A'r tai, a'r dyniawn, a'r tir danaw;

IX. An ode in praise of Gwilym Vaughan, of Cethiniog, his wife Gwenllian, and their son David.

7. *bob un grym* = bob un grymus.

15. *Gaio*, the hundred of Caio, in the county of Caernarthen, between Llandovery and the river Teivy.

Tri vry sy'n unty'n nwyntiaw pob dyn,  
'Tridyn â'u trilllyn yn eu trulliaw. 20

Mae'n wrda Wiliam, mae'n wardiaw arnam,  
Mac'n ward Wiliam maner Deilaw ;  
A vo gwâr a gâr, ni âd guriaw gwân ;  
Ond rhoddi arian nid trwy ddiriaw. 24

Ar un gwag gorwag a wnaï guraw swrn,  
A geiriau a dwrn y gyrai daw ;  
Tÿn merch Llywelyn, uwchlaw pawb, y rhoes,  
Troi iddi einioes trwy eiddunaw. 28

Wyr Vorgan tarian yn tiriaw'n mhob glyn ;  
Ar Ryd Odyn vryn, er ovn neu vraw ;  
Arian Gwenllian vu'm llaw, bob dengrôd,  
A'i haur a'i diod i'm hardwyaw. 32

*Gwnav* a darllëav rhagllaw i'r ddwysir,  
*Gerdd* iddi *gywir*, Gwawrddydd Caiaw !  
O'i thai ni adai na naw, na dengnyn ;  
Neu, o bai gannyn, un heb giniaw. 36

Trugain a thrichant yn trigaw o weinion,  
O benau doethion sy'n bendithiaw ;  
Deugain a dwyvil sy'n bendigaw'r tŷ,  
Holl Gymmry 'vyny hyd ar Vanaw. 40

\* \* \* \* \*

Ond hwyâu rhoddion ; ond rhoi iddaw ;

19. *Tri vry* &c. the three individuals to whom the present ode was addressed.

*nwyntiaw pob dyn*, "to anoint each man with oil" with the view of rendering the limbs both active and supple.

21. *Mae'n wardiaw arnam*, he guards, or watches, over us.

22. *maner Deilaw* = maenor Deilo.

27. *Tÿn merch Llywelyn*, &c. "Assiduously above all others did

the daughter of Llywelyn give."

31. *dengrôd* (deg-grôd), ten groats, or three and fourpence.

33. *i'r ddwysir*, here, probably, the counties of Caermarthen and Cardigan.

34. *Gwawrddydd*, one of the daughters of Brychan, the wife of Cadell Deyrnllwg, and mother of St. Cyngen. *Gwenllian* is here complimented by being called the Gwawrddydd of Caio.



Dyn val eginyn yn eginaw sydd,  
Davydd val cynnydd Huail ab Caw.

Mal prenau graddau yn gwreiddiau bendith, 44  
Mal gwenith ar wlith; mal coed ar wlaw;  
Da Wiliam Vychan yn adeiliau glân  
Da yw Gwenllian deg i'm llywiau.

Da Davydd drydydd, da draw; da yma; 48  
Da am wttresa ydyw i'm trwsiau;  
Tad, mam, mab dinam, a dâl deunaw'n un,  
Tir y sydd iddyn' teiroes iddaw.

A hiroes i'r ddau i'm hiriaw beunydd, 52  
A hir lawenydd nos, dydd, y daw;  
Ac iddynt iechyd rhag dygwyddaw'n haint,  
Ac eto henaint i gytunaw.

Hŷn vo Gwenllian no hydd; ac eilwaith, 56  
Gwilym vo un gynnydd;  
Hŷn no'r hynav vo Davydd;  
A'r hynav oll o'r rhai'n vydd.

E a vydd Davydd yn diva y gwin, 60  
Gwanwyn, Mai, Gorphena';  
Minnau'n ol, mab deddvol da,  
Yn was moel yn ysmala.

44. *Huail ab Caw*, brother of *Gildas ab Caw*. He is said to have been decapitated by Arthur's command at Rhuthyn.

## X.

## I DAVYDD AB TOMAS VYCHAN.

“ Let the bard who traverses the world but go to Cynwyl Caio during a festival, and he will soon see whether any thing can induce him to quit the place, or not. As for myself, in consequence of the great kindness shewn me there, I always find it difficult to quit the place. It is therefore wrong, if not folly, in any one to doubt meeting with a hospitable reception in the hundred of Caio ! The one God upon a spot of land created Caio as his *chef d'œuvre*.”

The above sketch may give the reader some idea of the opening part of the poem. The rest is taken up in praise of David ab Thomas Vaughan.

---

AED y bardd a rodio byd	
I Gynwyl Gaio enyd ;	
Na ddoed led ei droed yr ŵyl,	
Neu led gwaun, o wlad Gynwyl ;	4
Minnau ni ddov, os mỳnav,	
O Gynwyl hyd ganol hav ;	
Camwedd, a gwagedd, a gau,	
Cymmwd Caio ! ei hammau ;	8
A'r un Duw ar rŵn o dir,	
A wnaeth Gaio'n waith gywir.	
Isag oedd mewn curas gwỳn	
Wedi adail Rhyd Odyn ;	12
Mab i Isag oedd Iago,	
Marchogion vu'i veibion vo.	

X. Addressed to David ab Thomas Vaughan, of the hundred of Caio. He is apparently connected with the Vaughans mentioned in the poems Dosp III. 4, 5, 9. They formed a numerous tribe ; for the bard says (lines 17, 18), alluding to the twelve tribes of Israel,

Mae'r deuddeg llwyth yn Nghaeaw,  
A phob llwyth yn wyth, neu naw.

A branch of this prolific tribe were the ancestors of the family of Rhyd Odyn (rather Rhyd Odwyn), now Edwinsford, in the parish of Llan Sawel, on the river Cothi. Several of this family, in late times, represented their country in parliament.

13. *Iago*, or James, is still a family name at Edwin'sford.

Caio ei hun, dalvaine hael,	
Yw Na'sreth wèn, neu Israel ;	16
Mae'r deuddeg llwyth yn Nghaeaw,	
Mae pob llwyth yn wyth, neu naw ;	
Mae yno bob <i>hwsmonaeth</i>	
Morgan o'r muriau a'i gwnaeth.	20
Addev âch Davydd Vychan	
Y mae'r brut val am ryw Brân ;	
I Domas, wedi <i>Emyr</i>	
<i>Llydaw</i> , y rhoed llaw mab Llyr ;	24
Davydd o'i waed ev a ddoeth,	
Drwy ei âch ev, i dra chyvoeth ;	
I Domas, o waed amlhur,	
Nid oedd werth y nodwydd ddur ;	28
Esrom Davydd ab Tomas,	
Neu Esau, yw yn y sias ;	
A'i bryd ev obry Davydd	
Pryd ar vath Peredur vydd ;	32
Un gwr hwnw a garwn,	
A Davydd hyd vedd yw hwn ;	
Un vrig bendevig Rhys Du,	
Ac òn oedd i gynnyddu.	36
A vago'r hav o egin	
O Ronwy Goch a rà'n gwin ;	

19. *hwsmonaeth* = good farming.

20. *Morgan o'r muriau*, &c. that is, Morgan drained wet lands with the materials procured from the walls.

"Several bricks have been dug up in the vicinity of *Caio* with the initials of Roman names inscribed on them. And tradition asserts that the number of Roman brick edifices in the neighbourhood were anciently so considerable, that they were denominated *y Drev Goch yn Neheubarth*, or the Red Town in South Wales." Camb. Reg. vol. iii. p. 36.

23. *Emyr Llydaw*, an Arminorian prince, and nephew of Garmon. He lived in the middle of the fifth century, and had several children, who were distinguished in the history of

Britain as reformers of the Christian church, after they were conducted to this island by Garmon and Cadvan.

24. *mab Llyr*, "the son of Llyr." Bran, son of Llyr, was the father of the celebrated Caradog, or Caractacus. He is also called Bran Vendigaid, or Bran the blessed ; and by the poets, Bendigeid-Vran, and Bendigeidran. He was so called because he brought the gospel from Rome to Britain, when he returned from his detention as a hostage for the loyalty of his son Caractacus.

33. *Gronwy Goch* was the fifth in descent from Elystan Glodrydd ; and David ab Thomas Vaughan, the fifth from Gronwy Goch.

Davydd, cylch dolydd Dwylais	
Ydyw ei wlad, a hyd Lais ;	40
Cylchyn Rhyd Odyn, vy 'stôr,	
Caio unsud Parc Winsor.	
Deuddeg arwydd yw blwyddyn,	
A dau a deg ydyw dyn ;	44
A'r haul a aeth mewn <i>rhuvl</i> well	
I Ddavydd yn ddwy evell ;	
A'i ddau vraich hyd ar Ddovr wên,	
A'i ddyrnau a ddÿr ònen ;	48
A'i wyneb wrth yr Annell,	
A'i law a wnai lu yn well.	
Tomas ei varddwas evo	
Yn vyw oeddwn, nev iddo ;	52
Ni wn ŵyl o'r dengwyl da,	
Heb dâl ardal Llan Wrda ;	
Ni byddav ŵyl heb Ddavydd,	
Nac enyd awr, nac un dydd ;	56
Ni wypwyv, drwy nerth Cwyven,	
Eisieu niab Tomas : <i>Amen</i> .	

44. *A dau a deg*, &c. An allusion to the twelve parts of the human body, and how they are affected when the sun, moon, or planets, pass through, or aspect, the signs corresponding with those parts. *Aries* (in which the sun is exalted, or has the chief ascendancy) corresponds with the *head*; *Taurus*, the neck and throat; *Gemini*, the arms and shoulders; *Cancer*, the breast; *Leo*, the heart; *Virgo*, the belly; *Libra*, the reins and loins; *Scorpio*, the secret parts; *Sagittarius*, the hips and thighs; *Capricorn*, the hams and knees; *Aquarius*, the legs; and *Pisces*, the feet.

45. *A'r haul*, &c. "And the sun." An allusion to the sun ruling over the Zodiac, or the twelve signs corresponding with the twelve parts of the body.

47. *ddwy evell*, the twins, or *Gemini*, an aërial sign (in which the sun has power) ruled by Mercury, or education.

54. *Llan Wrda*, a parish in the hundred of Caio. The church is dedicated to St. Cawrdav, son of Caradog Vreichvras (Caradog with the Brawney Arm,) who lived about the middle of the sixth century. Aber Erch in Caernarvonshire is also dedicated to him; and another in Gallt Cawrdav in Gwent. Cawrdav embraced a religious life in Bangor Illtyd.

57. *Cwyven* = Cwyvan, son of Brwyno Hên, a saint who lived towards the close of the seventh century, to whom there is a church dedicated in Anglesey, another in Monmouthshire, and another in Denbighshire.

## XI.

## I GYNWYL GAIIO.

THE bard is lavish in his praises of Cynwyl Caio. The entertainments at a festival there, in his estimation, were nothing inferior to those at York. He urges every lover of song to resort thither. He alludes to the liberal hospitality of Thomas Lloyd, and to the immense wealth of David Vaughan. He speaks of Thomas Lloyd as a beautiful composer of love-songs, and as possessing an amiable disposition as well as a truly patriotic spirit.

---

GORAU un lle ger ein llaw,	
I leyg yw Cynwyl Gaiaw ;	
Mi a gawn ym o Gynwyl,	
Mwy nog o Iorc, yn min gŵyl ;	4
Awn i Gynwyl wên ganwaith,	
Ac yno aed a gân iaith ;	
Ni ddeuai hwn ei ddau hyd	
O Gynwyl Gaio enyd ;	8
A'r haela' oll yn rhoi 'llyn	
Hir o dudwedd Rhyd Odyn ;	
Dyn yw heb, hyd yn Nhiber,	
Domas Llwyd <i>dim us a llêr</i> .	12
Mab Morgan yn mhob mawrgost,	
Mwy nog un y mŷn ei gost ;	
Ban Davydd Vychan yw vo	
Ben cywaeth meibion Caio ;	16
Bid rhyw Phylip Trahaearn	
Bena' o'r byd ban ro barn ;	

XI. A poem on Cynwyl Gaio. Cynwyl Gaio is 7 miles west north-west from Llandovery.

"The church, dedicated to St. Cynwyl, is a spacious structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a square embattled tower ; and from its capacious dimensions, it has been conjectured that some monastic institution anciently existed

here in connexion with it. There were anciently chapels of ease at Court of Cadno in the north-eastern part of the parish, and at Pump Sant, of which there are now no vestiges." Lewis's Top. Dict.

15. *hyd yn Nhiber*, "as far as the river Tiber."

16. *llêr*, tares in corn.

A chaned <i>valed</i> i verch, A chyrhaedded awch Rhyddderch. Glŷn Aeron, Rhyd Odyn dir, Oedd ei adail a'i ddeudir. Digrivion doethion vu'r dô Oedd a aned oddi yno.	20    24
A gair mwyn a geir am wŷs, Tomas val Tim sy velys. Gwna ei hun, gan ei hanerch, Gan' mil o ganuau merch ; A phob pennill Ebrillaidd I vedw grym, hevyd a'i gwraidd. Nid dewr un, er maint ei ras, Nid da ym onid Tomas ; Mae'n dda Mon a weddiwyd, Mae sy well ym Tomas Llwyd. Arava' oll yw ar vil, Nes ei ovyn, a <i>sivil</i> ; Ev yw un, pan ovyner, A ovyn barn a vo'n bêr ; A gwna hawl, ac enwi hon ; Wedi'r hawl vo dŷr holion ; Os barn, neu wŷs, a bair neb, Parotav y pair ateb ; Os <i>alwens</i> a <i>gwnsela</i> I vwrw ein tir o vraint da ; Ar Domas rhaid yw ymwan, A'i bwrw hwyntwy obry'n y tân ; O dyd ei lawnvryd a'i law, Domas Llwyd am ais Llydaw.	28   32  36  40  44  48
* * * * *	



## XII.

## I DAVYDD VYCHAN, O GAIO.

MORGAN of Rhyd Odyn is by the bard compared to a fountain; and his descendant, David Vaughan, to a river issuing from it. And as the river "which went out of Eden" was parted so that it "became into four heads," so the four branches which sprang from David Vaughan, of Caio, the paradise of the bard, were his four sons; namely, Rhys, Thomas, Llywelyn, and David.

The bard, after this, speaks highly of the virtues of the four brothers; and, in accordance with the astrological notions prevalent in those days, he alludes to the different constitutional temperament of each. And then alluding (according to the popular opinion at the time) to four angels supporting the world, he speaks of the four brothers as being like them the stay as well as the protectors of the land of Caio. And in that character he designates them by the honourable epithet of the four saints, and that, in allusion to the four evangelists, whom the four beasts, mentioned in the book of Revelation, are supposed to represent under the different aspects of a lion, an ox, a man, and the eagle.

MAE fynnon gwlad Paradwys  
A berw o'i phen heb or-phwys.  
Duw a ÿrodd i diriaw  
O hon bedair avon draw;  
Avon dda ddigon i ddyn  
Erioed ydoedd Rhyd Odyn.

4

XII. Addressed to David Vaughan, of Caio. The following extract is from a MS. pedigree, in the possession of Miss Lloyd, of Laques, Llanstephan.

Phylip Trahaearn, o Ryd Odyn.

|  
Llywelyn Phylip

|  
Davydd Llywelyn

|  
Morgan Davydd

|  
Davydd Morgan

|  
Davydd Morgan Vychan.

5. *Avon dda*, &c. It appears (from lines 5-10) that David Vaughan, or Davydd Morgan Vychan, divided his estate between his four sons.

It may be here remarked that,

when the father and the son happened to be of the same name, the epithet *Vychan*, or Junior, was frequently added, as in the present instance, to that of the son.



Pedeir-ran o Vorgan vu  
 Draw o hon wedi 'rhanu. 8  
 Davydd Vychan a'u rhanodd,  
 A phob un vu'n rhanu rhodd.

Mae in' egin, mŷn Egwad !  
 O Rys du, wyr o *ystâd*. 12  
 Nesâu draw o Lan Sawyl,  
 A wn at Rys hwnt yr ŵyl.  
*Ysgwier* yw, dros Gaiaw,  
 Yno â'i wlad yn ei law. 16

Mi wn y fordd, mŷn y fydd !  
 O'i dai ev lle mae Davydd.  
 Dydd da i'r gwrda, bob gŵyl,  
 Draw ganwaith o dre Gynwyl. 20

Ymlidiav yr hav, er hyn,  
 Olau i dai Lywelyn.  
 Henw y gwr yw Hen Gyrys,  
 Erioed o Lan Wrda Lys. 24

Minnau o bydd grym ynov,  
 Mis i dai Tomas y dov ;  
 Ei vedd, ei ddillad a'm v'ais  
 (Be cov) yn vab y cevais. 28  
 Ei dri broder a'm ceryn'  
 Nid cas gan Domas un dyn.

Dynion o'r pedwar deunydd,  
 Wedi'u rhoi, yw'r pedwar hydd. 32  
 Arwydd ydyw yr awrhon  
 Wreiddiaw Rhys o'r ddaiar hon ;

11. *Egwad*, a saint who lived about the close of the seventh century, and had his church in Ystrad Tywi. William Egwad, an eminent poet of the 15th century, was a native of the parish of Llan Egwad as well as a

pupil of our bard.

13. *Llan Sawyl* (or Sawel), a parish in Caermarthenshire. Rhyd Odyn (written also Rhyd Odwyn) is situated in this parish.

27. *Ei vedd*, mead, or metheglin.

A'i rinwedd, lle cyvrenir, Yw'n null y tad ynnill tir. I'r dwvr dealler Davydd Mwy yw ei rent no'r Môr Udd ; A'i aur yn Nghaiaw'n gawad Dros dir ; ond a roes ei dad. Er hyn Llywelyn o'm llw, I'r tân y deiryd hwnw ; A'i aur uwch ben a ènyn, Ni ddifydd tra vo dydd dyn. Am vod Tomas yn rasol, Awyr yw hwn ar eu hol.	36     40    44
Pedwar clo ynt, pedwar cledd, Ar eu cymmwd rhag camwedd ; Rhag rhedeg o Lyn Tegid, A cholli oll a chael llid. Pedwar sant, mỳn Pedr ! y sydd Dan eu pedwar bàn beunydd. Yr ail pedwar a welir, Ac a â dan Caiaw dir. Dringaw mae pedwar angel Dan y byd, val dwyn y bêl. Caiaw, val diwreiddiau dêr, Yw'r byd, a'i phwys ar bedwar. <i>Llew</i> sy'n cynnal Malläen, Ac <i>Ych</i> y dan Gaiaw wên. <i>Gwr</i> a saiv yn groes â'r wyr, Ac arall yn gyw <i>Eryr</i> ; A'i rhyvedd yw rhoi hevyd O Vorgan bedwar bàn byd. Rhivaw a wn yn rhyvalch Dri ac un o bedwar gwalch. Tair oes hir i'r tri y sydd, Pedeiroes i'r pedwerydd.	48    52    56   60   64  68

## XIII.

## I PHYLIP AB TOMAS VYCHAN, O'R ANNELL.

THIS poem opens by alluding to the praiseworthy conduct of Philip in following up the noble example given him by David, his uncle, in the management of domestic affairs. After this he alludes to his being lineally descended from Huail ab Caw; and also, indirectly, from Urien Rheged. He is moreover said to be a nephew of (Dr. Philip Morgan) the bishop of Ely, as well as his heir at law. And he is spoken of as possessing extensive landed property in Dyved, besides many houses in England, and at Cymaron.

YR annedd wrth yr Annell,  
 Ni wn i ddyn annedd well;  
 Davydd vu'n magu â medd  
 Yr ynys yn yr annedd. 4  
 Yn ei ol ei nai eilwaith  
 A wnaî â gwin yr un gwaith:  
*Furvodd* yn rodd o'r eiddaw,  
*Phylip* corf Huail ab Caw. 8  
 I Urien (Teml Wynen lân!)  
 Y saiv âch Tomas Vychan.  
 Phylip o ddeugyf haelion  
 Yw'r ddâr hir o'r ddaiar hon: 12  
 Ei dad oedd vrig i bob dyn  
 O Rydderch, yntau'n wreiddyn:  
 Ei vam oedd vlodau am vedd  
 O Einion, yntau'n unwedd. 16

Y bêl, nai esgob Eli,  
 Ev â i'r âl vry â hi:

XIII. Addressed to Philip ab Thomas Vaughan. Philip was brother to Henry ab Gwilym's father (Dosp. III. 4.) of Court Henry.

9. *Teml Wynen lân* = Myn teml &c.

17. *Esgob Eli*, "the bishop of Ely." Philip Morgan was doctor of laws, and a celebrated ecclesiastic and civilian in his day. In the beginning of the reign of Henry V. he was made chancellor of Normandy, and lord

Ev a dâl cystal ac wyth,	
Hyn a dalai'r hen dylwyth.	20
Ni wnai gwaeth, yn un gwr,	
Yn y Deau no deuwr ;	
Dwy wlad dano vo a vydd,	
Dwy drev, a deudir uvydd ;	24
Dau dda a lenwis dwy ddôl,	
Da byw wythwaith, da bathol.	
Mal mab i Ddyvnwal Moel Mud	
Yw Phylip praf ei olud ;	28
E vesurai'n briv sacraidd	
Y grwn â hyd gronyn haidd ;	
Un rhyw y gwna ŵyr Hywel	
Ar ei dir yr awr y dêl ;	32
Mesur oll y maes a'r yd,	
Ac ei erydr bob gwrhyd ;	
Cwmwd hir tair milltir mawr,	
Cant erw mân Cantre Maenawr.	36
Mae yn llaw hil Dyvnawal	
Yr erwi mawr a'r aur mâl ;	
Y cyvoeth ev a'i cawas,	
Ac ar ei ol dawn a gras.	40

chancellor of Normandy, and lord privy seal. He was, says Rapin, a person of great abilities, and always employed by the king in the most important negotiations. From the year 1414 to 1418 he was sent ambassador to John duke of Burgundy,—to the earl of Armagnac, constable of France,—to the dauphin of France, &c. In the year 1419 he became bishop of Worcester, and of Ely, by translation in 1425, which he held till his death in 1435, when he was succeeded in that see by cardinal Lewis of Luxembourg.

*y bêl nai esgob*, &c. that is, the bishop of Ely's nephew will surely bear away the palm, as well in point of extent of property, as with respect to his noble descent; for, says the bard, his personal property is now eight times as much as any single one of his family ever possessed. Yea,

take any two of the wealthiest in South Wales, and you will find that he can himself compete with them both on the score of wealth.

22. *Ni wnai gwaeth*, &c. = *Ni wnai lai no deuwr*.

26. *Da byw*, live stock.

*Da bathawl*, coined specie.

30. *gronyn haidd*. See an account of the ancient Long Measure, such as "tri gronyn haidd," &c. in *Cyfraith Hywel Dda*. There is now in the press, under the direction of the Record Commissioners, a new edition of the Laws of Howell Dda, accompanied with an English translation, &c. by Aneurin Owen, esq.

33. *Mesur oll y maes*, &c. From what the bard states here it is clear that Philip ab Thomas Vaughan was an enthusiastic lover, as well as a great promoter, of agriculture.

Tir yr hynaiv, trwy raniad, A rhan o dir yr hen dad; Tai'r gorhendad, a'r tad da, Tai'r ewythyrr vâl Troia; Tai'r <i>Sieb</i> , lle troes y iaith, Phylip a'u cafo eilwaith: Phylip a gaif ei weled Yn nhai Sais; aen' hwy i <i>sied</i> . Cymered dai Cymaron Y gan vab gwinau o Von; Ni'm gad Phylip gredadwy O dŷ'r medd i undre mwy. Nid <i>abl</i> ym onid ei blas, Nid da ym ond mab Tomas; Ni ddov oddiwrth nai Ddavydd Yni ddêl y nos yn ddydd; Yni ddêl naw o Ddulyn, Yni ddêl o Wynedd un, Yni ddêl dros ddwr Mynyw Y du bach a'r bwbach byw.	44       48       52       56       60
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43. *Tad da*, a grandfather: *taid*.

44. *Tai'r ewythyrr* &c. In the lines preceding the bard enumerates Philip's several titles to his estates, such as, "Tir yr hynaiv—rhan dir yr hen dad—tai'r gorhendad—a'r tad da;" and concludes by mentioning *Tai'r ewythyrr*, that is, houses, situated probably in London; for they are called *Tai'r sieb*. These houses, however, fell to him as heir at law; wherefore the bard expresses a wish that *Phylip o'r Annell* should recover them,—“a'u cafo eilwaith.” In that case Philip, he says, would be seen (line 48) *yn nhai Sais*; and they who

kept an unlawful possession of them would be ejected. *Aen' hwy i sied*, that is, may they (the former possessors) go into any other place prepared for their reception.

48. *sied* = shed; a shed of land, a portion of land, as distinguished from that which is adjacent.

*Devoid sied*, a common term for *strayed sheep*, taken by the bailiff of the lord of a manor into his *sied* (shed) ground; that is, into a piece of land set apart for their reception.

56. *Yni* = hyd oni: until, until that.

## XIV.

I OWAIN AB TOMAS AB TOMAS VYCHAN AB DAVYDD,  
O GETHINIOG.

THE bard addresses Owain as one who knew well how to reward the meritorious minstrel. He alludes to his skill in falconry. He mentions him as being the grandson of Thomas Vaughan, who built the mansion called Glan Dwylais. He alludes to his being descended from Gronwy Goch, Rhydderch, and (maternally) from Llawdden. He calls him the chieftain of Mevenydd; and in that character he predicts the victory which he, with his men, would gain over the oppressors of his country. The conflict, he says, in which he would be engaged, as well as the issue of that conflict, would be similar to that of Constans ab Ellen when he triumphed over the tyranny of Rome. He foretells also that an equestrian statue of brass would be erected, in Cethiniog, in honour of him. And, alluding to Adam's beautiful form when coming from the hands of his Maker, he mentions the comely and tall stature of Owain, who like Adam was of stately figure; and like him also placed in an earthly paradise. He next alludes to his great activity, his superior skill, and his unrivalled success at the Welsh games; and concludes by again mentioning his noble descent.

Y MAB hwy no Beli Mawr,  
Ac a urdda ei gerddawr;  
Owain yn mro Cethiniawg  
A ŵyr yn hardd arwain hawg. 4  
Y mae gras Tomas y tad  
Yn y gwr hwn, a'i gariad.  
Dov i gydag ŵyr Davydd,  
Hyd varw awn, od wyv rydd. 8  
Tomas Vychan o Làn Lais  
A adeiliodd Glàn Dwylais;

XIV. Addressed to Owain ab Thomas Vaughan ab David, of Cethiniog.

1. *Beli Mawr*, or the Great, son of Manogan, the 64th king of Britain. He was the father of the celebrated Caswallon, or Cassivellaunus, as he is called by Cæsar.

7. *ŵyr Davydd*, "the descendant of David." Owain's mother was Eve, the daughter of David.

10. *Glàn Dwylais*, a mansion so called. From the bard mentioning *Llais* and *Dwylais* there were probably, and perhaps there still are, two brooks, each bearing the name of



Tomas ei vab, mòr rasol, Owain ei ŵyr yn ei ol.	12
Eginodd yr eginyn O Ronwy Goch, val grawn gwin ; Ac o Rydderch y gwreiddwyd O wèlllaw aur <i>Ieuan Llwyd</i> ;	16
Caterwen o <i>Llawdden</i> lin, Ceidwad ieuanc o Edwin ; Unben yw ar Vevenydd, Ei ŵyr vo'n <i>goncwerter</i> vydd.	20
Rhyvel Constans ab Elen, Owain a bair hyn i ben. A'i lun ev ar varch evydd Yn Nghethiniog (varchog) vydd.	24
Duw a wnaeth ar draeth di drain Lun y gwr â'i law'n gywrain ; A'i yru wnaeth awr yn ol I Baradwys briodol.	28
Gwnaeth weithian oddiar làn Lais Lun a delw ar làn Dwylais. Tai Tomas, dinas pob dyn, Yw Paradwys gwyr Prydyn.	32
Trigo'n y màn yno wnav, Yno gohir gan' gauav. Diareb a oedd derwyn A ddywed wrth Dduw a dyu ;	36

*Llais*, which signifies vocal, or sounding water. The new house was built on the junction of the two brooks. Hence the united water, or stream, was called *Dwy-lais*. We have similar instances elsewhere, such as *Rhiw* in Manavon. Two of the name unite ; and the township lying between them is called *Dwy-Riw*. Also *Dwy-ryd*, near Corwen. *Dwyvawr* and *Dwyvach* in Eivionydd ; and on the bank of the united streams is situated *Llanystumdrey*.

12. *Owain ei ŵyr*, &c. that is, Owain the grandson of Thomas

Vychan.

17. *Llawdden*, was the fourth in descent from Aleth lord of Dyved.

21. *Constans ab Ellen*, son of Constans, or Constantius, the 76th sovereign of Britain, by Helen daughter of Coel. See Brut G. ab Arthur, in Myv. Arch. vol. II. pp. 207, 208.

25. *Duw a wnaeth*, &c. An allusion to Adam's creation, and to God placing him in Paradise.

32. *Prydyn*, properly Scotland ; but it here stands for Britain in general.



“ Cabla'th vro dda i'm gŵydd i,  
A'th randir, a thro yndi.”

Mi av i droi'n y cwrt main, A'r ddaiar ydd â Owain Ac ar ei ol, i Gaer Wên; Ac weithiau i Lan Gathen. Edrych arno ev; hevyd Ar y bàr yn gadaw'r byd. Ar redeg gorau ydyw, Ar vaen, ac ar vwa Yw. Y priv achoedd a oeddyn' Ach Owain deg uwch no dyn. Achau y tad o chaid dydd, Achoedd Eva verch Ddavydd. Tomas dda, ac Eva i gyd, Vo gan' hav ac un hevyd. Duw y rhawg i adu' rhai'n, A Duw i adaw Owain.	40     44    48    52
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44. *Ar y bàr*, &c. An allusion to Owain's strength in hurling the lever (tavlu trosol haiarn oddiar vlaen troed), which went with such force as

if it would never be seen again. See an account of the Welsh games in Dr. Davies's Welsh-Latin Dict.

## XV.

I HYWEL AB DAVYDD AB GORONWY, O WERNAN,  
YN NHREV DREYR, CEREDIGION.

THE character which the bard gives to Howell ab David is that of a powerful warrior, who had at his command intrepid spearmen. He mentions his love of the chase; his generous hospitality; and the noble mansion he had built, in which wealth abounded and every comfort reigned. He then alludes to his descent from Idwal, Tewdwr, Llawdden; and from Elystan Glodrydd, earl of Hereford. After this he speaks of the great physical strength of his hero, and of the many extraordinary feats which he had done. And, in conclusion, the bard ranks him with some of the most celebrated heroes of ancient times.

Y GWR teg â'r gweywyr tân,  
Ac a rwym gwyr i ymwan;  
Hywel hael a gâr hely hydd,  
Hwn a dyv yn rhan Davydd; 4  
Hwn a ran, o hen Ronwy,  
Gwin ac aur val eigion Gwy.  
Ev a ran gân o'r gwenith  
Vry os iach ev, ŵyr Rhys Chwith! 8  
Ev o Wernan a varnodd  
I bawb ei ran, bob ei rodd.  
Draw y gwnaeth yn Nhre Drëyr  
Dai'n swrn val deunaw o sŷr; 12  
Ugain tŷ âg un tōad,  
Ac yn y tŷ gwin y tad;  
Pob rhyw vedd, pob rhyw vyddin,  
Pob rhai a ŷv pob rhyw win, 16

XV. Addressed to Howell ab David ab Goronwy, of Gwernan (Gwernant), now Alderbrook Hall, in the parish of Tre Drëyr (now corruptly called Troed yr Aur), in the county of Cardigan.

6. *val eigion Gwy*, "as plentiful as the water in the river Wye."

8. *ŵyr Rhys Chwith*, "the grandson of Rhys Chwith." Rhys Chwith was the maternal grandfather of Howell ab David.

Pob rhyw lŷn, pob <i>rhutel</i> uniawn,	
Pob rhyw wledd, pob baril lawn.	
Bonedd Hywel yn benav	
Val bonedd Gwynedd a gav :	20
Mŷn y dydd ! y mae'n ei dâl	
Rhan o waed yr hen Idwal.	
Tri arglwydd, chweugeinmlwydd gynt,	
Gwaed iddo i gyd oeddynt ;	24
Tewdwr, Llawdden wr o'r Nordd,	
Arall unfurv Iarll Henfordd.	
Tarian Elystan val iâ,	
Iddo hon a ddihuna ;	28
Ac ynddi'n meistrolî'r drin,	
Ben baedd yn erbyn byddin.	
Yr ydoedd er ei adael	
Ddur a chorff i Ryddereh Hael ;	32
Cynneddvau ei gleddau glân	
A ddyg arno, hydd Gwernan !	
Mae rhad yn llaw'r penadur,	
Ac yn y dwrn egni dur ;	36
Mae'n ei vraich, mŷn y Vair wên !	
Awch i dîr chwe derwen.	
Saint gynt a wisgynt yn iawn,	
O'r un sin <i>harnais</i> uniawn ;	40
Ac a wneynt val y gwnai wyr,	
Ac a wywynt eu gweywyr.	
Nyddu coed ar Vynydd Carn	
A wna Huw'n ei wên haiarn ;	44

17. *Rhutel* = rheol : regulation.

27. *Tarian Elystan*, &c. "the shield of arms of Elystan Glodrydd (the brilliancy of which appeared as bright and shining as that of a flake of ice in the sun,) will be revived (resumed) by Howell ab David."

"Elystan Glodrydd, the fourth royal tribe, was prince of the country between Wy and Severne. He was the son of Cyhelyn ap Ivor, by Rhiengar the daughter and heir of Gronw ap Tudr Trevor, from whom he had derived to him the title of the earldom of Hereford. Athelstan, king of England, was his godfather.

Elystan's two Coates quartered. *A. 3 boar's heads cobazed S. langued G. tusked Or.* His mother's Coat, *Parted per Bend sinister Ermine and Ermings*, over all, *a Lyon rampant Or.*" Vaughan's British Antiquities Revived, p. 75. See also Dosp. I. 7. 52.

43. *Nyddu coed*, an allusion to the great strength of Howell, who could bend, twist, or rend the trees in a forest; like Milo the Crotonian.

*Mynydd Carn*, is situated to the south of Crickhowell. This mountain is represented by our author as being formerly a forest.

44. *Huw* = Hywel (ab Davydd).

Bwrw deulu, lle bo'r dolur, Bwrw uchod ŵyth â'r braich dur. Pan vu, a llu yn eu lladd, Ar Gamlan wyr ac ymladd ;	48
Dervel o hyd ei arvau A ranai ddur yno'n ddau ; Dervel Is Coed ar <i>vael's</i> caith A dreuliai y dur eilwaith.	52
Pedrog Llan Dyvriog vryn Yw'r milwr â'i wayw melyn ; Syr Fwg a'i gwrser, a'i fôn, Sain Sior iso'n is Aeron.	56

48. *Camlan*, a river which divides Devonshire and Cornwall ; on the banks of which was fought the great battle which terminated the civil war between Arthur and Meddrawd by the death of both, in the year 542. Hence every furious conflict is termed *Camlan*.

49. *Dervel*, son of Hywel ab Emyr Llydaw, was a celebrated warrior in the time of Arthur. He was present at the battle of Camlan, where he greatly distinguished himself. In the latter part of his life, however, he devoted himself to religion ; and was, after his death, numbered among the Welsh saints. Llan Dervel, near Bala, is dedicated to him.

There was formerly at Llan Dervel "a certain old idolatrous image, named Dervel Gadarn," which was held in great veneration, and honoured with pilgrimages and offerings. Images of this kind had "engines to make their eyes open and roll about, and other parts of their body to stir ; and many other false jugglings, where-with the simple people a long time had been deceived." Dervel Gadarn, with many more, was destroyed in compliance with an injunction to that effect given by Henry VIII. It was taken to London in the month of May, 1538, and burnt in Smithfield ; "with which idol also was burnt the same time and hanged for treason, Friar Forest." "The image of Dervel Gadarn, coming from Wales, was brought to the gallows, and there also with the foresaid friar, as is said, was set on fire : whom the Welsh-

men much worshipped, and had a prophesie among them, That this image should set a whole forest on fire. Which prophesie took effect ; for he set this Friar *Forest* on fire, and consumed him to nothing." *Fox's Book of Martyrs*.

There are some relics of Dervel still preserved, such as a portion of a wooden horse, and wooden crosier. They are in the possession of the rev. John Jones, the present worthy rector of Llan Dervel. They are called by the Welsh,—the one *Cefyl Dervel*, and the other *Fôn Dervel*.

There is a field above the rectory house called *Bryn Dervel* ; where, tradition says, the common people used to resort from all parts, at Easter, in order to have a ride on Dervel's horse. The horse was fixed to a pole which was placed in a horizontal position, and attached to another which stood perpendicularly, and rested on a pivot. The rider, taking hold of the crosier which was fastened to the horse, was wheeled round and round as children are wheeled when they mount a wooden horse at a fair.

51. *Dervel—ar vael's caith*, &c. That is, David ab Howell (the Dervel of the bard) would lustily deal his steel on the cuirassed slaves (the Yorkists). *Maels*, coat of mail : a cuirass.

53. *Pedrog Llan Dyvriog*, Pedrog, a complimentary epithet to David ab Howell. Llan Dyvriog, a parish in the hundred of Troed yr Aur.

55. *Syr Fwg*, Sir Fulke Fitzwarren, a Norman baron, lord of Alber-

Priav Tomas ab Davydd,  
 Pwy mor hael pe am aur rhudd?  
 Nid cryv, nid cywir i wân,  
 Nid grymus, nid gwr ymwan, 60  
 Nid doeth, nid gwrawl, nid da,  
 Nid tramawr, nid dewr yma,  
 Nid taer byth yn tòri barn,  
 Nid teg ydyw, nid cadarn, 64  
 Nid gwr hael dan garu'r rhain,  
 Dan awyr, ond nai Owain.

bury. He lived at Alberbury Castle, Shropshire, in the time of Henry I.

From the great success which attended him at tournaments, in that he always came off victorious, the Welsh poets thought that they could not honour their heroes more than by calling them *Syr Fwg*. Consequently we find David Nanmor applying the epithet to Davydd Llwyd of Gogerddan :

Mae E'n mynu mewn maenawr  
 Fôn drom iawn â phen dur mawr;  
 Gair *Fwg*, gorau gwr â fon,  
 Gyrai ovid ar gryvion.

Davydd ab Edinwnd says of Rhys o Von,

Llid enw *Fwg* llydan ei fordd.

Our bard also frequently compliments his heroes by applying to them the epithet *Syr Fwg*.

In Yorke's Royal Tribes of Wales (p. 3.) there is mention made of Gruffydd ab Cynan having fought with "that hardy baron Fulke Fitzwarren."

56. *Sain Sior*, St. George of England. Another complimentary epithet applied to the hero of this poem.

57. *Priav Thomas ab Davydd*. Howell was Thomas ab Davydd's elder brother.

*Priav* = Priam, king of Troy. Here a complimentary term.

66. *nai Owain*. Howell was a nephew to Owain ab Goronwy, of Gwernan.

## XVI.

## MARWNAD HYWEL AB DAVYDD, O WERNAN.

IN this poem the bard laments the death of Howell, who was cut off in the prime of life. "Now that Howell is gone," he says, "the wine, and the metheglin, and the sound of the harp, have ceased. Yea, over the Vale of Towy, and over Is Aeron, hath night spread its mantle of darkness. The country laments after Howell with the lamentation of Adam and Eve over Abel; and weeps over him with the weeping of Cadwallader when he quitted his native land."

The bard, after thus giving vent to his grief, mentions the three sons of Howell; and concludes by alluding to the happy state of Howell, whose spirit had fled to those regions where holy angels and saints dwell.

Yr hael, gynt mewn rhol a gaid,  
A vynodd nev i'w enaid;  
Hywel diovn, hil Davydd,  
Hwn! A ddaeth cyn hên ei ddydd? 4  
Mair a wŷr, Och Dduw am ras!  
Marwed ŷm am wŷr Domas;  
Un pader Annes Perod  
A egyr nev i'w gwr nôd. 8

Y vlwyddyn a vu leiddiad,  
I roi in' glwyv ar ein gwlad.  
Dialedd ar vedd, neu vêl,  
Ydyw hi wedi Hywel; 12  
Aed *Clared* gan valched vu,  
Aed *Gasgwin* da i gysgu.

XVI. An elegy upon Howell ab David, of Gwernan.  
Hywel ab Davydd ab Goronwy = Annes Perrot.

Grufydd	Rhydderch	Sion.

7. *Un pader*, &c. "One Pater-Noster uttered by Annes (Agnes) Perrott, his widow, will open the portals of paradise to her beloved spouse."



Gwelais amser gan v'eryr,	
Y cawn win er canu i wyr ;	16
Yr awrhon cael, drwy warant,	
Liw gŵn du ; wylaw gân dant.	
Nos a wnaeth i'n <i>nasiwn</i> ni,	
A nos du i ynys Dywi ;	20
Nos vèr sydd yn Ynys Von,	
A nos hir yn Is Aeron ;	
Tebyg yw, er ateb gwyr,	
Droia draw i Dre Drëyr ;	24
Cwyno bu'r wlad yno'n dost	
Ei hunben, a'i brenhinbost.	
Cwynaw'dd wyv, tra vyddwyv vyw,	
Am veistr, ac am vy ystryw ;	28
Cwyn Adda, cwyn Eva'n iawn	
Am Abel un o'i meibiawn ;	
Cwyn Cadwaladr o Wynedd	
Draw, am ei wlad rym a'i wledd.	32
Davydd vu ar ddeutu'r ddôl,	
Gaer a chastell gorchestol ;	
Pump tŵr, drwy'r ungwr a ran,	
Oedd arno ; Nudd o Wernan !	36
O bump hydd bu imp iddyn',	
Heddyw nid oes hydd ond un.	
O bump dêr mae pedwar pen	
Yn y maes o vlaen Moesen ;	40
Mae'r pummed, yn un rediad,	
Yn llywiaw'r tai yn lle'r tad ;	

27. *Cieynaio'dd weyr*, &c. "I will ever lament the loss of a master, and of the pleasantry with which I used to indulge myself in his company."

31. *Cwyn Cadwaladr*, &c. "The lamentation of Cadwallader." Cadwallader was the last king of Britain. He is said to have abdicated his throne, and retired to Rome in 686, where he underwent the torture a little before his death, which took place in 688. For this

partiality to Romanism he was sainted, and has a church dedicated to him in Anglesey, and another in Denbighshire. He was denominated Cadwaladr Vendigaid, or the blessed. This faint-hearted Cadwallader should not be confounded, as he has been by too many, with the redoubtable *Ceadhealla* of the West Saxons.

33. *dryg'r ungwr a ran*, that is, through God, the disposer of events.



Mae tri angel Hywel hael Gwedi ev a geidw avel ; Grufydd, Rhydderch, ddau erchwyn ; Sion deg a lesâ un dyn.	44
Trimeib yw'r tyrau ymwan O'r un tŵr â'r onwayw tân ; Triwyr antur o Hywel, Tair oes ar y tri a êl. O Wiriod y mae'r ddau eryr, O Berod gweilch â bryd gwyr : Sierubim, Seraphim rydd Draw i dyvu, derw Davydd. Mihangel, Hywel, maen' hwy A Gabriel yn y gobrwy. Hywel a Sariel, a'r saint, A Rhuniel, yn yr henaint ; Raphael a Hywel un hyd, Hywel, Uriel, un wrhyd ; Hywel sy'n angel o nev, A gwr yn y goreunev ; Yno y saiv yn y syr : Oed yr aur i'w dri eryr.	48 52 56 60 64

51. *O Wiriod*, Wiriott, a surname.

## XVII.

## I RYS AB DAVYDD AB TOMAS, O VLAEN TREN.

RICE is addressed by the bard, as being his patron, and a warrior who wore a silver collar of SS. This collar, we learn, (lines 25, 26,) was bestowed upon him as a mark of honour by Henry VI. Rice is mentioned as being a grandson of Goronwy Goch, and as bearing on his target gules the golden lion of Elystan Glodrydd. Alluding to Rice having built Blaen Tren, the bard turns astrologer, and mentions how the planets were favourable to his hero. He concludes by eulogizing the noble mansion of Blaen Tren.

Er cael aur gwr colerawg,	
Y gwin Rhys a gawn y rhawg ;	
<i>Ysgwïer</i> hael braisg yw Rhys,	
A bàr wyneb yr ynys :	4
Tarian vraith ev a'i try'n vriw,	
Tarw a nôd Blaen Tren ydyw.	
Mawr ydoedd vryd M'redydd Vras	
Ar dernio rhai o'i deyrnas ;	8
Mae ar ei ol yma Rys	
Ymlaen canmil o'r ynys ;	
Grufydd Sais, ei gorf oedd sant,	
Os yr hael Rys yw Rolant.	12
Naw o vydrwyr ni vedrynt	
Heb Ronwy Goch roi barn gynt ;	
Rhys ei orwyr sy wrol	
I varnu iawn vry'n ei ol.	16
Cavas <i>grifient</i> , mewn cyvoeth,	
Llawdden â'r vwyall ddu noeth ;	
Arwedded mewn targed tân	
Lew o aesdaelch Elystan :	20

XVII. Addressed to Rice ab David ab Thomas, of Blaen Tren, in the parish of Llan y Byddair, Caermarthenshire.

15. *Rhys ei orwyr*, &c. Rice was

maternally the grandson of Goronwy Goch.

19. *Arwedded*, &c. "Let him bear on his fiery target a lion from the broken shield of Elystan."

Ni'm cair, petwn bedeiroes,  
O'i blwyv, mab Ailvyw, i'm oes.

E vu encyd ddivancoll	
Eres ar yr ESAU oll ;	24
<i>Harri</i> a roes <i>hir</i> o'i ran	
Ar Rys hir ESAU arian ;	
A'r ESAU hyn, val rhyw ser,	
Yn y tŵr hwnt a eurer.	28
E vŷn Rhys o vewn rheswm	
Roi'n Mlaen Tren aur melyn <sup>n</sup> trwm ;	
E wnaeth Rys, yn wyth rosyn,	
Allan gwert val llian gwŷn.	32
Tai swrn, a'r tô sy arnyn' ;	
Saith a wnaeth, oes wyth yn un.	
Ar Dren lwyn a'r derw'n lanerch,	
Y planwyd saith planed serch ;	36
Enwer <i>Sol</i> yn un o'r saith,	
Yn heulwen ei henw eilwaith ;	
<i>Luna</i> , mae'n oleuni mawr,	
Os Luna sy liw Ionawr ;	40
<i>Mars</i> , o hyd Caer Emrys oedd,	
<i>Mercurius</i> yn mrig caeroedd ;	
<i>Venus</i> yw'r llys uwchlaw'r llall,	
<i>Subiter</i> ysbytty arall ;	44
Seren Rhys, ar ei iawn ran,	
<i>Saturnus</i> tai o Wernan.	
Heb weddu'n Llan y Byddair,	
Llundain oll yn dai a wnair ;	48
Wrth lys Rhys, wrth liw ser oedd,	
Llys Hu Gadarn llesg ydoedd ;	
Lle lliwiwyd graddau'r neuadd,	
O liw aur Groeg, lawer gradd ;	52
Gradd tŷ Hu val gwraidd tywys,	
Hono yw'r radd yn nhŷ Rhys ;	

22. *mab Ailvyw*, "the son of El-vey." Ailvyw, a saint, the son of Durdan, and a founder of some

churches, in the seventh century. *Here* a complimentary term applied to Rice ab David.

Mae o'r radd i mi roddion	
Ar neuadd hir newydd hon ;	56
Ni wn gornel heb <i>scler</i> ,	
A heb naw pib o win pêr ;	
Wrth son am Von yn vynyeh	
O Vlaen Tren cav lanter wych ;	60
Wrth weled balched y byd,	
A llu gwyr rhiv Lloegr hevyd ;	
Ar v'enaïd ! o wyr v'ynys	
I ni nid rhaid mwy ond Rhys.	64

## XVIII.

## I RYS AB DAVYDD, O LWYN TREN.

THE bard asks what land was there in Christendom which could boast of richer wine than that which is drunk at Llwyn Tren? What country could boast of superior timber to that which grows on the land of Rice ab David? His extensive grounds, he says, abound, like Windsor forest, in oaks of the most luxuriant growth, as well as in other trees of every kind and magnitude. And to animate the scene, wild bees are found, in swarms, on his estate; and are seen sipping many a flower. There also is seen the stately stag in company with his comrades,—whilst the melodious blackbird is heard to commingle his notes with those of other songsters of the forest. The heron nestles there, and there it summers. And the timid squirrel, the beauty of the wood, gambols in safety there; and winters there.

The poem concludes by the bard alluding to Rice ab David's noble ancestors; and by wishing him a long life, as well as prosperity to his house.

B'LE mae un wlad yn Lladin?  
 B'le val mab Ailvyw am win?  
 Ba lwyn îr abl a'n eurai  
 Val Llwyn Tren velly, ond rhai? 4  
 Erw o wenith ar ynys  
 Yw'r derw, a rhai'n ar dir Rhys;  
 Fair unled hof yw'r winllan,  
 Fenigl oll o gyfion glân; 8  
 F'rest unsut forest Winsawr,  
 - Fridd yw yn mysg privfyrdde mawr;  
 Blaeniau ysgubau ysgwâr,  
 Brig coedwig yn barc adar; 12  
 Gwe olas be nos galan  
 Gwiall îr yn llenwi glân;  
 Gwely *isob* bridleision,  
 A *savri* ynt dros y vron; 16

XVIII. Addressed to the same Rice ab David, of Blaen Tren, otherwise of Llwyn Tren. Blaen Tren, and Llwyn Tren, the names of Rice

ab David's two mansions situated on the river Tren, Caermarthenshire.  
 16. *savri* = savory.

Derw ieuaine hyd yr awyr, O'u bôn oll heb un yn ŵyr; Glasderw, yn gan'-erw i gyd, Gwely <i>sirys</i> glas hevyd.	20
Maes a gair yn mysg irwydd, Maes o goed grymus, a gwŷdd; Ac yn y maes o gan' mil, Y caed brwys val coed Brossil.	24
Llwyn Davydd, gwinllan Dyved, Llwyn bron Celyddon oedd led; Llwyn derw'r ieirll yn y Dwyrain, Llwyn Rhys yn unllun a'r rhai'n.	28
Mae 'leni forest ddien, Mal ôn tir Iorc, yn mlaen Tren; Fridd ydyw'r fordd ddiadwyth, Ev â'r fridd yn vawr ei frwyth;	32
Mes heb na mawrdes, na mall; Mesryd grymus arall; Heidiau bydavau, bob dair, Ac a'n beddau'n mhrysg Byddair;	36
Iyrhod, ewigod, bob deg; Yno ceirw is Pen Careg. Llyma y coed lle mág gweilch, Lle mae celliau mwyelch;	40
Lle nythod crehyrod hav, Lle i wiweir drwy'r holl auav;  Lle gwelav Rys ab Davydd Yn llanw gwin yn y llwyn gwŷdd;	44
Lle bu Domas a'i <i>nasitn</i> , Lle mae Rhys, llyma ŵyr hwn; Aed Rhys, val yntau, y rhawg Yn Neheubarth yn hebawg;	48
Yn Wrlais Gruffydd Sais hen, Ac yn Lludd, egin Llawdden.	

20. *sirys*=cives, a sort of wild leeks.

35. *bydavau*=bydāu, *pl.* of byda, a nest, or swarm, of wild bees

38. *Pen Careg*, a village situated on the river Teivi, in Caernarthen-shire, about four miles and a half south-west of Lampeter.

Ev â Rhys (dad i dad) wr	
Hyd at Rhydderch ab Tewdwr;	52
Ac o dwr Dewdwr hyd Iâl,	
O Dewdwr i waed Idwal;	
Ac o Rys, mÿn y Groeswên !	
Ev a chwardd y Gilvach Wên.	56
Aeth caterw, aeth coed dyrys,	
Aeth rhent Deheubarth i Rys.	
Aed teiroes y gaterwen	
I'r cyrtiwr hir o vrig Tren ;	60
Ac i'r llwyn gerllaw ynys,	
Ac i'r imp, ac i wÿr Rhys ;	
Ac i Rys a gâr asswyn,	
Ac i'r llys wrth gŵr y llwyn.	64

56. *y Gilvach Wên* (uchav), a gentleman's seat in the parish of Llandyssul, Cardiganshire.

57. *caterw*, pl. aggr. (ca-derw). Large spreading oak trees. *Caterw* is synonymous with *cateri*.



## XIX.

I RYS AB DAVYDD AB THOMAS, O VLAEN TREN.

“As the oak stands foremost among the trees of the forest, so does Rice among his neighbours. He is the generous one of the line of Maredydd Vras. May the blessed Mary protect both him and his family; for when I was seized and laid up with a violent fever, and when shooting pains ran throughout all my bones, the kind-hearted Gwenllian the daughter of Rice, she who ever contributes to the relief of the hundred poor, supplied me with medicines whose healing virtue restored me to my wonted health. There were no delicacies of the table with which I was not furnished, and I was, moreover, supplied with the very best of mead. May my blessing ever attend her, and may my prayers in her behalf be heard. I was on the brink of the grave; but I am now restored again to health and vigour.”

The above is a sketch of the first portion of the present ode. The remainder is taken up in praise of Rice's hospitality.

Rhys, derwen Blaen 'Tren, blaena' tras dwyvawl,  
Ab Davydd ab Tomas;  
Rhys wyd â nwyd diwfnias;  
Rhys, Nudd o Varedydd Vras. 4

Urddas M'redydd vras vo ar air yt, Rys!  
Uwch trev Llan y Byddair;  
Oed Nudd, a da o'i neddair,  
Yt, *Amen!* a ato Mair. 8

Mair cadw Vlaen Tren; a Iago os mŷn,  
Gyda'r un ddelw gadarn o Ddilyn;  
A'i holl dylwyth yn lle y delyn',  
A'i holl deulu yn lle y dilyn.' 12

A mi yn crynu i'm un croenyn,  
A'm esgyrn yn vriw braidd na myslyn';

XIX. An ode addressed to Rice compliment Gwenllian, Rice's daughter.  
ab David ab Thomas of Blaen Tren.  
in which the bard takes occasion to

I'm byw â gwaew yn mhob gïeuyn,  
A'm gwythi'n tòri gan ddolur tyn ; 16

Gwenllian verch Rhys a byrth can-nyn,  
A wnaeth gwyρθiau brau, mal Mair o'r Bryn ;  
A mi yn glav wàn mewn gwàl veinyn,  
Hi a'm gwnaeth yn iach haiach o hyn ; 20

Peri 'm adar gwâr mewn plu gorwÿn,  
Ac adar gwylltion werth bro Cedwyn ;  
A medd o Ogledd, a meddyglyn,  
Ac yn enwedig y cambrig gwÿn. 24

El iddi' mendith bob rhyw vlwyddyn,  
A'm gweddi iddi dra dyvo yn ;  
Y byd a'm gweles yn gorbedwÿn,  
Weithion yn vrywys, megys mÿn ! 28

Mae't Rys i'th ddwy-lys, gyda thelyn,  
A'm dda a genais, a medd gwenyn ;  
Oes clod yn Mlaen Tren val Rhydodyn ;  
Oes awen a cherdd heb us na chwÿn. 32

A bod yt *gan'-morc* o aur Byrgwÿn,  
Ac aur y *Venis* nis gwaravynyn' ;  
Ac aur Aravia'n grub a rivyn' ;  
Ac aur yr Asia vâl egroesyn ; 36

Ni byddit teirawr, y baedd terwÿn !  
Heb ei roi yn llwyr wrth brynu llyn ;

23. *medd*, mead ; a drink made of honey. *Meddyglyn* (meddyg-llyn), metheglin, a potable liquor made of water, honey, herbs, spices, &c. *Bailey's Dict.*

27. *corbedwyn*, a wasp in its embryo state, and used as a bait by anglers. The bard, in his illness, compared himself to a *corbedwyn*, in that he expected death to take him off.

33. *gan'-morc*, "one hundred marks of gold:" *here* an indefinite

sum of money. Mark of gold (in ancient times) was the quantity of 8 ounces, and was in value 17*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* of our coin at this time. *Bailey's Dict.*

*Byrgwÿn*, Burgundy.

34. *Venis* = Venice, a large and celebrated city in the north-east of Italy, situated near the northern extremity of the Adriatic.

35. *Aravia* = Arabia.

Gwrandaw, val lluniaw wrth y llinyn,  
 Ar rwymaw'r awdl orau yn Mrydyn ; 40  
 Ev a welir Rhys, val y rhosyn,  
 A'm d'eiriau moliant ym d'aur melyn.

Er aur ni'th roddav, nac er Arras *gloth*;  
 Nac er gwlad o'r deyrnas ! 44  
 Ni ront imi, wŷr Tomas,  
 Ond *noblau* aur yn dy blas.

Deublas gadarn, dwbl saig ydoedd,  
 Ac yn rhydoedd gwin a rhadau ; 48  
 Val tŷ Badarn, volt y bydoedd,  
 Ac aur ydoedd a gwirodau ;  
 Dod ar bared Siarls a'i siared,  
 A llew Dared, a'i holl dŷrau ; 52  
 Dodaist *glared*, er ein gwarded,  
 Ar gan' gared, o'r gwin gorau.

Arwain, eryr ! o'r henwriaeth,  
 Deuluwriaeth hyd elorau ; 56  
 Ac ar werwyr gwnewch garwriaeth,  
 A chosbwriaeth â'ch ysberau ;  
 A phleidwriaeth rhag bradwriaeth,  
 A milwriaeth yn moly acrau ; 60  
 A chanwriaeth, a cherddwriaeth,  
 A dysgwriaeth dewis gorau.

I'th lys havaidd, wrth lais yved ;  
 Yr âi Ddyved, er aur, Ddiviau : 64  
 Yn auavaidd â'th hen yved,  
 Ryw Ednyved ! ward wanavau.  
 Aer pan eler, doer pan ddeler,  
 Aur a seler dros eu haeliau ; 68

45. *Ni ront*=ni roant, ni roddant.

54. *Ar gan' gared*=ar gan' càr.

57. *Ac ar werwyr*, &c. "And upon warriors," &c. *Gwerwr*, *pl.* wyr (*gwêr-gwr*), A rich man ; a man of noble race : a warrior, a hero. *Gwerin*, *pl. aggr.* (*gwêr*), The igno-

ble, the common people, the multitude.

64. *Diviau* = Dydd Iau ; Thursday.

67. *Aer* (imper. mood), Let there be a going out. *Doer*, Let there be a coming in.

Ac i'th seler gwin pan geler,  
Ac a weler wrth gŵyr golau.

I'n tir enyd na âd trinoedd  
O waith minoedd wrth ymwanau ; 72  
Aur y genyt yw'r eginoedd,  
I'th ddewinoedd gyda thannau ;  
I'th lys gwinoedd rhag dryghinoedd,  
I vyddinoedd sy veddiannau ; 76  
A'th velinoedd, a'th geginoedd,  
I'th werinoedd, a'th ariannau.

I'th awenydd, o'th ddaioni,  
Er digoni rhoi deganau ; 80  
A'th lawenydd, a'th haelioni,  
Er hinoni ; a rhoi'n ynau.  
Ail Mathonwy o Euronwy,  
Wyd hyd Gonwy'n doddi gynau ; 84  
Ail Cilonwy wisg bibonwy,  
Wyd o Ronwy a'th darianau.

Av i vlaen Tren a'th voliant Rhys,  
Ac yno'dd ys â gwin neu ddau ; 88  
I'th neuadd lôn, a'th newydd lys,  
I gael aur Rhys i'm eglurhau.  
Mi wn a wŷs rhyw enw â Rhys  
A nydd, ar vrys, ònwydd ry vrau ; 92  
Ni wn na wŷs na bawd, na bys ;  
Na dyn i Rys a dyno'r iau.

86. *Wyd o Ronwy*, an allusion to Goronwy Goch, whose name occurs in Elystan Glodrydd's Pedigree.  
Rice ab David being a descendant of

## XX.

## MARWNAD GWENLLIAN, MERCH RHYS, O VLAEN TREN.

“A star hath set—the beauteous Enid of Blaen Tren—the virgin daughter of Rice is no more. Her spirit hath flown to the happy regions above; and at Llan y Byddair her corpse hath been consigned to the grave. How brittle is the thread of life! less lasting it is than the spray of the sea. Alas! that Gwenllian should have been cut off with the month of May. Like that month, pleasant and sweet, was the life of Gwenllian. Would that her life had been prolonged! But I am far advanced in the vale of years; and my muse gives utterance to nothing but woe, for the setting of the sun of Gilvach Wên. Yesterday Gwenllian's voice was heard; but to-day it is hushed. She was amiable in her life, and accomplished withal; and her hand was ever open to relieve the distressed. A branch of an ancient and noble stock hath been cut off. Ah, how uncertain is life! She was espoused, and on the eve of marriage; but before the bridal day her spirit fled away; and her body rested in the silent tomb.”

MARW vis hir? marw vu seren,  
 Val Enid, draw o Vlaen Tren,  
 Gwenllian, o'i lleianaeth,  
 Verch Rhys at Vair ucho'r aeth. 4  
 Ei bedd sy'n Llan y Byddair,  
 Bedd val y byddai i Vair;  
 Seren Blaen Tren, blaned rhydd,  
 Sy ynddo; gares WENDDYDD! 8  
 Breuach no bàr o ewyn,  
 Yn ei stâd, yw einioes dyn!  
 Gwae vi vod oes Gwenllian  
 Môr vŷr â Mai ar y vân. 12  
 Yma oes merch yw mis Mai,  
 Oes rhyhir nis arhōai:

XX. An elegy on Gwenllian, the daughter of Rice, of Blaen Tren.

2. *Enid*, the daughter of Yniwl, earl of Devon, celebrated for her beauty. She was one of the three exalted ladies of the court of Arthur.

3. *lleianaeth*, the life of a nun:

virginity.

8. *Gwenddydd*, one of the daughters of Brychan, married to Cadell prince of Powys, about the middle of the fifth century. She was buried at Towyn in Meirion.

Meistres ym yw 'stôr y saint,  
 I my hun y mae henaint. 16  
 Gwae a wnaï ganu awen,  
 Glavychu haul Gilvach wên;  
 Yn ei dadl echdoe'n d'weddy;  
 Ddoe yn vyw iach, heddyw'n vud. 20

Addwyn oedd y winwydden,  
 A da o ddysg ydoedd Wên;  
 Da ddoe a hael ydoedd hi,  
 Doeth oedd; vy mendith iddi. 24

Yn ei dydd ni adai wân  
 Aco'n llawwag WENLLIAN;  
 Ni adai, ac osai gwÿn,  
 Ar un ieuanc awr newyn; 28

Ac ni adai'r gwân oediog,  
 O bai glav, heb ŵn neu glôg.  
 GWENLLIAN, o Wernan wên,  
 Rhyw hael oedd hir o Lawdden; 32

Henw iddi, hyn a wyddoch,  
 Euron o gyf Ronwy Goch.  
 Yn rhyw Gwen o'r rhagynys,  
 Golau oedd rhyw'r arglwydd Rhys; 36

Dynion, yn ael Arvon las,  
 Dinawal hyd yn Euas.  
 Ymarver o'i phaderau  
 Hyny a wnaeth hono'n iau; 40

Tua'r nev troi a wnaï,  
 Tua'r eglwys y treiglai;  
 Rhoddi, val y rhoddai vôr,  
 Gwÿn a gwyrdd, gwn, i gerddor. 44

27. *Ni adai*, &c. "She would suffer no one to endure thirst,—her sparkling cyder was ever at hand," &c.

31. *o Wernan*, Gwenllian was related to the Gwernan family.

32. *o Lawdden*, several families trace to Llawdden.

34. *Euron*=Euronwy, the daughter

of Clydno Eiddyn, a beauty celebrated by the poets.

35. *Yn rhyw Gwen*, &c. "Of the family of Gwen." Gwen was a descendant of the lord Rhys of South Wales.

44. *Gwÿn a gwyrdd*, badges of bard and minstrels.

Ammod vydd rhwym priodas, Rhwy'mo'r gred rym ar y gras ; Ei llaw ammod Gwenllian A roes o'i llaw'n nrws y Llan ;	48
Ammod dyvod at Davydd A wnaeth bun wedi un dydd. Ac i'r nev, ac i gôr Non, Ac i radd y gweryddon ;	52
Duw tri a ddyg Gwenllian Doe o'r llys at Bedr i'r Llan. Duw gwŷn, os dyg o'i ynys, Duw ! ar ei hol adu Rhys.	56

49. *Davydd*, name of the person to whom Gwenllian had been espoused.

54. *at Bedr i'r Llan*, St. Peter, the

patron saint of *Llan y Byddair*, where Gwenllian was interred.



## XXI.

I DAVYDD AB RHYS AB MEIRIG, O BEN CRAIG  
A TRE'R DELYN.

IT appears by this poem that David ab Rice was a proficient in the Bardic and Mythologic lore of his nation. And it also appears that the bard and he were in the habit of reading together the poems of Gwion; and that David ab Rice could explain to him some abstruse parts in Gwion's poems, perhaps the doctrine of Metempsychosis.

The bard mentions David ab Rice as possessing two mansions, namely, Pen Craig, and Tre'r Delyn; and alludes to his being a staunch Yorkist, and holding some office of trust under Edward IV.

MIHANGEL o Dre'r Delyn,  
Mair a'i gâd yn Gymmro gwŷn;  
Davydd ab Rhys y sydd sant,  
Amheirig, am hau ariant. 4  
Pwy a garav ond Davydd?  
Pwy a'n câr? corf Pen Craig hydd.  
Cywyddwr a ddwg weddi,  
Heno vyth i hwn wyv vi; 8  
Vore, ucher, gwnav warchan  
I vâr braisg Ivor a Brân.

XXI. Addressed to David ab Rice ab Meyrick, of Pen Craig, and Tre'r Delyn. Pen Craig (rocky eminence) was the ancient name of Old Radnor. To the north-east of Old Radnor are vestiges of the castle occupying the summit of an eminence, the figure quadrilateral with towers at the north-east and north-west angles; and towers of lesser dimensions on the east and south-east. Sir Richard C. Hoare identifies this castle with the *Cruker* castle (Crug gaer) of Giraldus Cambrensis. It may have been the residence, or one of the fortresses, of Caractacus, the Silurian prince, whose father was Brân the Blessed.

The bard is deficient in not blazoning the arms, as well as in not making any allusion to the pedigree of his hospitable patron. This debars us from forming a conjecture as to the tribe he sprang from. Two only of his ancestors, besides his father and grandfather, are mentioned; namely, Brân and Ivor. This Brân was, probably, Brân the Blessed.

Tre'r Delyn (literally the Town of the Harp), now Harpton Court, the elegant seat of the right hon. Thomas Frankland Lewis, M. P. for Radnorshire, and one of the commissioners of the poor laws.

5. *Amheirig*=Ab Meirig.

Gwnaeth perchentŷaeth ein tir	
Gwneuthuriad, ac ni thòrir,	12
Ei dŷ gwŷn. Be Dyw Gwener	
No Iau sy well dan y ser ;	
Ys ydyw'n well Ddyw Sadwrn	
No Dyw Sul yn ngwindai swrn ;	16
Yn nhai y gwr hyn a gav,	
Er gohir, drwy y gauav,	
Pysgod, adar mewn bara,	
<i>Pasteiod</i> , hen ddiod dda ;	20
Llanw wyth <i>bort</i> , lluniaeth bêr,	
Llysiau <i>siopau</i> ar <i>sewer</i> ;	
<i>Sewer</i> o bob llyseuyn,	
Seigiau ar <i>gwrs</i> , a sugyr gwŷn ;	24
Medd a wnai brwysgedd i'm bron,	
Maeth hwn âg ammaethynion.	
Vy swydd, er hyd vo'r vlwyddyn,	
Gyda'r llew, bes gada'r llyn,	28
Darllen ein dau'r llyvrau'n llwyr,	
Dilëu son, dadlau synwyr ;	
O bai ddwywers heb ddŷall,	
A'r naill wers ar ran y llall ;	32
Davydd, wrth gywydd Gwiawn,	
A'i deall ym mewn dull iawn :	
Y mae'n benaeth i'r draethen,	
I ninnau bid hwnw'n ben.	36
Oen yw vo o hyn i Von,	
A draig arw gyda'r goron ;	
Ymddiried y mae Edwart	
I wr â'i ddwrn ar ei ddart ;	40
O gadw'r wlad, anwastad oedd,	
A'r <i>Barizens</i> a'r aberoedd.	
E wŷr òn Edwart vrenin	
Tòri y drws tua'r drin ;	44

33. *Gwiawn* = Gwion Bach, original name of Taliesin.

is an excellent orator ; and may he be to me my head tutor."

35. *Y mae'n benaeth*, &c. "He

A Dervel o Dre'r Delyn  
 O'i vlaen ev val Owain wŷn.  
 Pan ddél y Gwyddel a'r gwyr,  
 A'r *aliwns*, avreolwyr ; 48  
 Swydd Davydd, ddeuddydd, a'i waith,  
 Eu treuliau a'u troi eilwaith.

Bardd wyv bob awr i Ddavydd,  
 Od wyv, gwŷn vy myd o'r dydd ! 52  
 Da o waelawd Tre'r Delyn  
 Sy'n y *mhŵrs* innau am hyn ;  
 O dda a roed ym ddwyoes,  
 Davydd a'i rhydd, ac a'i rhoes ; 56  
 Ac a roes, val un o'r Grîg,  
 A ro Mair i ŵyr Meirig.

50. *Eu treuliau* &c. "To reduce chace:" that is, to harrass and pursue their number, and to give them a sue the enemy."

## XXII.

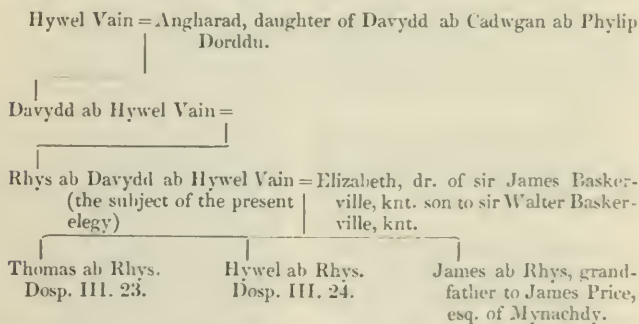
MARWNAD RHYS AB DAVYDD AB HYWEL VAIN,  
O VAELIENYDD.

“RICE ab David was, as it were, the life and strength of the land of Maelienydd. Mournful was the day in which he died. Every rank of society—the rich and the poor—the bard and the stranger, were all alike sad on hearing the news of his death. Whilst he was greatly respected, and his company sought, by the leading men of his country, he was equally esteemed and beloved by the poor. And when the day arrived to pay him the last homage, and to perform the dread funeral rites, the eye of every spectator betrayed a flood of tears; and every bosom throbbed with excess of grief. Ah! now that he is gone, where shall we meet with his like again? where shall be found another to excel him in the pleasures of the chace, or in the management of the hawk? Let the minstrel henceforth cease tuning his lyre, now that the best of men is dead.”

VAL enaid a chorf i Vaelienydd rym,  
Ydoedd Rys ab Davydd;

XXII. An elegy on Rice ab David ab Howell Vain, of Maelienydd, in Radnorshire.

Hywel Vain was 13th in descent from Elystan Glodrydd.



James Price of “Managhty,” esq. served the office of sheriff for Radnorshire, in the years 1552, 1564, and 1574. John Price, esq. of the same place, was sheriff in 1576.

Mynachdy Bleddda is in the hun-

dred of Cewn Lllys, about six miles south-west of Knighton; and before the reformation it was a religious establishment under the abbot of Cwm hir in the same county.

Mal *Hywel*, â'r insel rydd,  
*Vain* hael o vewn heolydd.

4

Gwae vardd a cherddawr, gwae a vydd mewn hawl;  
 A gwae'r sawl gwr y sydd;  
 A gwae dlawd gyda'i wledydd,  
 Rys ddoeth! o aros ei ddydd.

8

Dyddbrawd cerddorion a gwirioniaid,  
 Dydd Rhys ab Davydd ar drev ei daid;  
 Dirànodd Duw oll o'r estroniaid,  
 Doe, o dōri cleddeu'r swyddau'n ei said!

12

Rhan darvu o'i lu roi'n welyaid  
 Cyweiriaedr i bawb o'r cywiriaid;  
 Cerddoriaeth sy'n waeth, mỳn Croes naid!  
 Canu a phrydu, mỳn bedd Sain Fraid!

16

3. *insel rydd*, free patent.

11. *Dirànodd Duw*, &c. that is, God hath now put an end to all strangers partaking any more of Rice's hospitality.

*Diranu* (di-rhan), to deprive one of a share, or portion.

15. *Croes naid*=Croes nawdd. In addition to the explanation already given (Dosp. I. 20. 2.) of *Croes naid*, the following additional illustration cannot but prove acceptable to the reader.

*Croes naid* is a term used by most of the poets, and applied to something of superior value. Accordingly, Lewis Mon, addressing Gwilym Vychan, says,

Mal *Croes naid* rhaid dy vawrhau,  
 Mae'n gwr yr ail mân greiriau.

*Like the CROES NAID we must thee extol,*

*Whilst others are to be accounted as trifling relics.*

D. Llwyd says,

Gresyn oedd na chai *Groes naid*,  
 I gynnnull da rhag enaid!

The following extract is from Rot. Wall. 11 Edw. I. m. 1.

*Pro Anyano filio Ynor et aliis qui detulerunt ad regem partem illam pretiosissimi ligni Crucis quæ a Wallensibus vocatur CROYSSENEYHT habebant hanc libertatem quod non teneantur in aliquo exercitu regis sequi extra quatuor cantreda.*

Warrington, in his History of Wales, states that Einion ab Ivor, Davydd ab Gronwy, and others, betrayed their prince Davydd, brother of the last Llewelyn, to Edward I. then at Rhuddlau castle; and that, together with the prince, they brought to the English monarch the *Regalia* of their unfortunate captive: and that among other relics they brought the *Crosseneyht*, supposed to have been a part of the *real cross*, highly venerated by the princes of Wales.

Ross, in his Antiquities of Warwick, says that St. Neot brought this relic into Wales from the holy land; but a Welsh bard, on the contrary, says,

Diboen Elen Godebog  
 I Gred a gavas y Grog.

Dyrys vu Gymmru gynt a diriaid,  
 Deuwaeth i gerddawr nog y dywaid;  
 Dygiad *Cadwaladr* gynt *Vendigaid*,  
 Dwyn Rhys o'r ynys val i'r un naid. 20

Dwyn Alexander ysgwieriaid,  
 Dwyn hydd, dwyn ieithydd y penaethiaid;  
 Dwyn pen, dwyn derwen penaduriaid;  
 Dwyn dâr i'r ddaiar o'r Tordduaid. 24

Dwyn Ustus o vaine meddiannusiaid,  
 Dwyn ònwayw Rhiwlallt a'i hennyniaid;  
 Dwyn pen a chynghor y blaenoriaid,  
 Darvu Duw Iesu y dewisiaid. 28

Yna ei cwynodd y datgeiniaid  
 Ac ennyn flam gŵyr val y gànaid;  
 A galw ar Gynllo a'i ddysgwyliad,  
 Ac wylaw yno gan' galwyniaid; 32

A lliv ar ruddiau rhai amddivaid,  
 A llev a dolev gan y deiliaid;  
 A llu yn byrddu ddeucan' byrddiaid,  
 A llyna oerchwedl llawn i eirchiaid; 36

A llygyrn cedeirn bob deuddeg haid,  
 A lliwgoch vaner o vlaen lleygiaid;

By the above expression, the bard meant that Helena (a British lady), daughter of Coel Godebrog, and mother of Constantine the Great, discovered the identical cross on which the Saviour of the world suffered.

The day of the supposed "Invention of the Holy Cross" has still a place in the Romish Calendar. Indeed relies similar to the *Croes naid* of the Welsh princes are still exhibited to "willing" believers on the continent; for instance: "The rector of St. Roch having obtained a small piece of the *holy cross*, a plenary indulgence is granted to the

parishioners, and from to-morrow it will be exposed to the veneration and adoration of all true believers." See *Galignani's Messenger*; and the *Record* for September 19, 1836.

24. *o'r Tordduaid*, an allusion to Rice ab David being descended from Philip Torddu. See *Pedigree*.

26. *Rhiwlallt*, in the parish of Llan Gynllo, in the hundred of Maelienydd, Radnorshire.

30. *flam gŵyr*, a wax taper. It was customary to burn wax tapers all night in churches; and also in the chamber where a corpse was laid.



A llugwy'n cròni o vewn llygaid,  
A llewygu o'r holl gywiriaid ; 40

A sain uwch allawr gan bersoniaid,  
A swm mewn eglwys gan ysweiniaid,  
A son gwyr gwinon gyda'r gweiniaid,  
A *siens* yn ol y *sens* a wnaid ; 44

A *Letni* o Vair gan ofeiriaid,  
A *Luw*t ac organ gan breladiaid ;  
A chynhwrw glych ac uchenaid,  
Ar arwyl eilchwyl mewn llys galchiaid. 48

Ei gwynaw ydd wyv, mi a'r gweiniaid,  
Ei ddevnydd, a'i wýdd, a'i orddyvnaid :  
I nev yr aeth at ei henaviaid,  
Ei ddynion a'i blant a ddaw yn un blaid. 52

Pwy a arver mwy o *gwrseriaid* ?  
Pwy 'vagai'n ei dai o welch dyaid ?  
Pwy 'garai vilgwn a bytheiaid ?  
Pwy vydd ail bugail i hebogiaid ? 56

Boent allan gerddwyr, a bint williaid ;  
Bid waethwaeth y gerdd i bob doethiaid ;  
Bod Rhys oedd vlaenawr y doctoriaid,  
Barwn yn vyw oedd, obry'n veddaid. 60

Gorau Rhys vu Rys, er pan vu raid ;  
Gorau rhan vu ei ran o Varwniaid ;  
Gorau y dyddiau y rhoi am Doddaid,  
Gorau'n cael cerddau y penceirddiaid. 64

43. *gwyr gwinon*, "men who sport their wine."

44. *siens*, sequence. *Sens*, incense.

57. *Boent* = *bint* = byddent.

63. *Goran y dyddiau*, &c. "Those

days were the best when he used to remunerate the bard for his *Toddaid*." *Toddaid*, one of the 24 metres. *Here* an Awdl, or ode: a poetical composition.



Da'n ieuane, da'n hen wrth veudwyaid,  
 Da'n vychan, da'n vawr wrth Vrytaniaid,  
 Da yn wr, da'n vab cadwyn euraid,  
 Da'n vyw yn rhoi càn, da'n varw y caid.

68

A da a roddes bob llawesaid,  
 A da a gadwodd gyda'i geidwaid ;  
 A'r da a rànodd ar dre ei daid,  
 A Duw a ràno da i'r enaid.

72

## XXIII.

I THOMAS AB RHYS AB DAVYDD AB HYWEL VAIN,  
O VAELIENYDD.

THIS ode opens with mentioning Thomas ab Rice's family—the high esteem in which he was held at Weston—his worldly prosperity—his having children—and his efficiency as a magistrate. It then mentions that he procured his ale from Weobly, and his wine from Guienne. And, in conclusion, alluding to his eloquence and ready wit—to his being a warrior and friendly disposed towards the bards, he prays for his safe return from Cologne, where he was, probably, at the time when the present ode was composed.

AMEN! oes Sulien y sydd i Domas,  
*Diemwnt* Rhys ab Davydd,  
Ab Hywel Vain; *esampl* vydd  
Ei vail win i Vaelienydd.

4

Cynnydd Maelienydd am ei lun gwrawl,  
Gorwyr Madog Rhyscun;  
Cledd uwchlaw bonedd pob un,  
Clust am clywai o Westun.

8

Am Westun gyvun ac a gavas Rhys,  
Rhaid vydd son drwy'r d'yrnas;  
Yr wyv yn son, er ovn sias,  
Eto am ei vab Tomas.

12

Bu i Domas allu, bu wellwell urddas  
Gwr, arddwrn, ben astell;  
Ac i Westun mae'n gastell,  
O Westun nid oes dyn well.

16

XXIII. An ode addressed to Thomas ab Rice ab David ab Howell Vain, of Maelienydd. See *pedigree*, Dosp. III. 22.

1. *Sulien*, the son of Hywel ab Emyr Llydaw, a saint who lived in

the former part of the sixth century. He and his brothers, Rhystyd and Cristiolus, came with Cadvan from Armorica.

16. *O Westun*=allan o Westun. Weston in Radnorshire.

Ev a â wellwell val avallen,  
 Ei vrig yw'r goedwig i vwrw draig wên;  
 A'i blant imp a wnant dros nèn y dengwlad,  
 Mal imp o ryw had, mil ym mhob pren. 20

Da yw'r llywiauwr a dewr a llawen,  
 Da'n wir a haelav dan yr heulwen,  
 Da wr yw Tomas ar dâren Rhiwlallt,  
 Daioni Oswallt dan ei asen. 24

Evo a orvydd, â vo i aerwen;  
 Evo a esyd cyvraith Voesen;  
 Evo a wŷr synwyr, sonien' am deiriaith,  
 Ev a yr cyvraith i vrig Havren. 28

Mab Rhys a gerir yn mhob presen,  
 O châr offeiriad ddechreu 'fferen;  
 Mab Rhys a dywys, deuen' i'w garu,  
 O châr y Iesu'r ŷch a'r asen. 32

O'i law ev a aeth, ar ol ei vên,  
 O ern i Weblai lawer *noblen*;  
 Ei vragawd, wirawd (ystyrien'!) a gav;  
 Ei win y gauav vu'n y Gien. 36

I brovi uchod ei briv achen  
 Yn mysg arawech y mac 'sgriven;  
 Ei davawd parawd, vegys peren, abl  
 A wnai bob parabl yn bupuren. 40

Ev a aeth, vilwr, â'r vath velen,  
 A'r gair o roi i'r gwyr â'r awen;  
 O gaerau Ecs wys gaerwen, i Lugwy;  
 O Vynwy drwy Wy i avon Dren. 44

25. *Evo a orvydd*, &c. "He will overcome; he will go to the field of battle."

*aerwen*=aerwan, a field of battle.

34. *ern*=tâl=cyflog, payment: an earning.

39. *Ei davawd parawd*, &c. "He with his tongue ever ready, and his eloquence which may be compared to a luscious pear, could give a zest to every sentiment."

44. *avon Dren*, the river Trent.

Ni bu wr unbarch byw a'r unben,  
 Ni bu wr unnerth ond nai Bronwen ;  
 Ni bu'n Ngwestun lun ar lèn a vai well ;  
 Nac I. W. nac LL. nac A. nac N. 48

Ni charai enwi un âch i Ronwen,  
 Na gwyr y *Mars* na geiriau mèn ;  
 Ei vrenin a gâr, vawr ònen ! Dugiaid,  
 Tri o varwniaid nis tervynen'. 52

Trwy'r môr, Deinioel, teir-Mair, a Dwynwen,  
 Tri arall ydyw trwy'r arlladen ;  
 Tri brenin byddin ; a (thros ben) Cynllo,  
 Yw'r tri a'i gwylio traw o Gwlen. 56

Tri o dyrau o'r tair derwen,  
 Tair o siroedd fordd y try seren ;  
 Teiroles a chynnydd caterwen vriglas,  
 A saiv i Domas hevyd. Amen. 60

46. *nai Bronwen*, "nephew of Bronwen:" namely, Caractacus.—Bronwen was daughter of Llyr Llediaith (of foreign speech), and sister to Brân the Blessed, the father of Caractacus. See an account of Bronwen, as well as of her tomb and urn, in *Cambro-Briton*, vol. II. pp. 71, 72, 371. The urn is now to be seen in the British Museum, where it was deposited after the death of its

possessor, the late Mr. Richard Llwyd, the poet and antiquarian, of Chester.

49. *Ronwen* = Alis Rouwen, the daughter of Hors, whom Gwrtheyrn Gwrthenau, commonly called Vortigern, espoused. See Gwrtheyrn Gwrthenau, in the *Camb. Biog.*

53. *teir-Mair*, the three Marys; namely, the virgin Mary, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James.

## XXIV.

MARWNAD HYWEL GOCH AB RHYS AB DAVYDD  
O RIWLALLT, PLWYV LLAN GYNLLO,  
YN MAELIENYDD.

“HE whom I had often beheld at Rhiwlallt hath been borne to his long home,—even the descendant of Howell Vain. The hero, who in battle could make captives of his foes, and whose fame for valorous deeds had spread throughout the kingdom, hath been laid in his lowly tomb. When he died, a lofty tree was cut down; yea, a stately oak in the forest of Maelienydd. Ah! many and pungent are the pangs which I suffer for the loss of Howell Goch. No longer for me hath the song or the harp a charm to chase away my grief. Every merriment hath ceased; and sadness hath suffused itself over many, and once joyous, countenances.”

*Y gwalch*, wedi euro'r gwallt,  
*Hir* a welais yn Rhiwlallt;  
Nid ydyw heddyw ei hun  
Yn rhoi'r gost yn nhir Gwestun; 4  
Ev aeth gorwyr Hywel Vain  
(Drwy'r llu) i'r derw a'r lliain;  
Ev â aeth megys dros vôr  
O Riwlallt ar yr elor. 8  
*Hywel Goch* a heliai gaith,  
*Ab Rhys* hael o'r pwrs cilwaith;  
Enwawg ydoedd drwy'r ynys  
Wely pridd Hywel ab Rhys; 12  
Pren plàn yn Llan Gynllo oedd,  
Blin wedi'r blànu ydoedd.  
Duw a geidw'n deg adail  
Winllanau Duw yn llawn dail; 16  
Ac a dÿr hwnt gwedi'r hav  
Y rhai ieuaine o'r hwyav;

XXIV. An elegy on Howell Goch the parish of Llan Gynllo, in the  
ab Rice ab David, of Rhiwlallt, in hundred of Maelienydd, Radnorshire.

Hywel oedd bren uchel iawn	
O'r gwinwydd rhywiawg uniawn ;	20
Pren devnydd lle 'ferenwn,	
Duw yw'r saer a dores hwn ;	
Tòres derwen Maelienydd,	
A phellach gwanach yw'r gwŷdd.	24
Tòres tant a'r veddiant vu,	
Yn y canol, yn canu ;	
Tòres bwa'r da a'r dawn	
Yn ei annel yn uniawn.	28
Syrthiodd gwalch divalch oedd deg,	
Gan hud ac e'n ehedeg.	
Diwreiddiodd pren yn nèn allt,	
Mŷn yr haul ! mwya'n Rhiwlallt.	32
Rhocd adav Rhys ab Davydd	
Oll yn nghôr Gynllo yn nghudd.	
Carw oedd Rhys o'r <i>concwerwyr</i> ,	
Glân iawn, a'i saith osgl yn wyr ;	36
A'r seithved a'i vwyned vo	
A syrthiodd, Rys ! i wrtho.	
Pren oedd Rys o'r ynys ynn,	
Ac yr oedd ar saith gwreiddyn ;	40
Iesu â'i vwyall noswaith,	
A dòres un da o'r saith.	
Castell oedd ar vrig Gwestun	
A saith dŵr, e saethwyd un ;	44
Tòres un eto o'r saith	
Gan vaen gwn o nev unwaith.	

24. *A phellach*, from henceforth.

35—46. *Carw oedd ev*, &c. It appears from this passage that Rice ab David had seven sons all grown up. Rhys, the seventh son, is mentioned (in line 38) as having died before his brother Howell. The bard (in lines 39, 40.) compares Rice ab David to a tree supported by seven roots, one of which (meaning Rhys), he says, had been cut off. And (in lines 43, 44.) Rice ab David is also compared to a

castle having seven towers, one of which (meaning Rhys again), the bard says, had been destroyed. And then alluding to the death of Howell, the bard concludes by saying that another of the seven towers had fallen.

43. *Castell oedd*, &c. "A castle there was standing on a high eminence in Gwestun."

46. *Gan vaen gwn*, &c. "By a shot from a gun." The bard may,

Aml yw clwyv yn vy nwyvoch,  
Aml yw gwae am Hywel Goch. 48

Ni chân un dyn iach, na dau,  
Ni chwardd dyn â cherdd dannau ;  
Ni bydd iach y neb a ddêl,  
Ni thrymbhai eithr am Hywel ; 52  
Pand gweddwon meibion bob mainc ?  
Pand truan pwynt rhai ieuainc ?  
Pand anhyvryd byd pob un ?  
Pand trist pob pant ar Westun ? 56  
Mae Hywel lle nas gwelwn,  
Mae'i eisieu ev y mis hwn ;  
Mae wylaw am y milwr,  
Mae nev yn gartrev i'r gwr. 60

probably, allude here to a mangon,      anciently used for the casting of  
or mangonal, which was an engine      stones.



## XXV.

## I LYWELYN AB RHYS AB SION, O VAES HYVAIDD.

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It appears from this poem that Llywelyn was (maternally) descended from Howell Vain; and also that he was constable of the castle of New Radnor. He is commended for having purchased an estate which lay contiguous to his native place; which circumstance, in the bard's opinion, augured well of his future greatness. Llywelyn is next spoken of as a warrior attached to Edward IV; and as one of the first who received the king (at Ravenspur, in 1471) on his landing when he returned from Holland, and also as having greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Tewkesbury, which took place on the fourth of May of the same year.

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ANGEL ydyw Llywelyn  
 Y'ngwledd, os angel o ddyn :  
 Ev a urddes ei veirddion,  
 Yr hysbys walch Rhys ab Sion ! 4  
 Wyr i *Einion*, o'r henwyr,  
 Ab *Hywel Vain* â'r pawl vŷr.  
 Cadben i'r Gaer wên ar wâl ;  
*Cwnstabl* yn tecâu *unstal* ; 8  
 Natur gwr ynn trwy'r gareg,  
 Garw tîr â geiriau teg.  
 Tir a rodded, trwy wreiddyn,  
 Yn bedwerydd devnydd dyn : 12  
 Lewis, ail Eliâs hen,  
 A ddeiryd i'r ddaiaren.

XXV. Addressed to Llywelyn ab Rice ab John, of New Radnor, anciently called *Maes Hyvaidd*.

6. *â'r pawl vŷr*, "with the staff made of the fir-tree." *Vŷr*, *abies*. Dr. Davies.

*Hywel Vain*, that is, Howell the slender, or delicate, is reported to have been a dandy in his day; and,

if Dr. Davies be correct as to the meaning of the word *vŷr*, one might conjecture that the additional cognomen *pawl vŷr* was given to him from his carrying a peculiar lance made of fir.

8. *Cwnstabl* = constable. The term may here signify a chief magistrate.

A bryno tir â braint da,	
Yn ei ardal â'n wrda ;	16
A wertho tir wrth y tai,	
Evo weithian a vethai ;	
Ev a bryn tir vo breiniol,	
Ac ni werth um coetgae'n ol.	20
Cynnyddu bu, ac y bydd ;	
A vu can-nwr vwy eu cynnydd ?	
Ni bo llai ei vwnai vawr,	
No mil o Von a Maclawr ;	24
Na'i ystent, na dwy-Went wên ;	
Na'i drethau yn y draethen.	
Llywelyn yw naill aelod	
Y Drev Wên ; ni'm dawr ei vod :	28
Sev, a wnaeth, yn Maes Hyvaidd,	
Seiliaw grwnt ; a selu gwraidd :	
Dysgwyl oll, a dewis gwledd,	
Ar y <i>cwmins</i> rhag canwedd ;	32
Cadw'n vwy, val Cedewain vawr,	
Y <i>franshes</i> no fair Winsawr ;	
Troi casau drasau ar drwch,	
Trwy oed dydd tretio heddwch ;	36
Ac os rhyvel, Llywelyn	
A'i law nid oedd lai no dyn.	
Edward ban ddaeth i'w adwedd,	
Drwy y môr, i dir y medd ;	40
Llew Rhys, wrth roi llawer rhodd,	
Ei dri ban, a'i derbyniodd ;	
Ac ar dasg y gwnaeth basgwaith,	
Yn mron dydd y murnad waith :	44
Ac yn Newsksbri dodi dydd	
A'i ynnill ev â'i ònwydd.	
Iawn oedd am waith min ei ddart	
I lew rhyhael gael rhywart ;	48

30. *grwnt* = the ground. Seiliaw grwnt, that is, *here* to lay the foundation for amassing a great estate.

34. Y *franshes* = franchise *Royal*. An allusion, perhaps, to Llywelyn

having had a grant of some of the crown lands.

40. *i dir y medd*, "to the land of possession."

Ev a wŷr, can gŵyl variaeth,  
Y llew o Rôn wellâu'r iaith;  
Ev a ràn Edwart vrenin  
Dir i'w wyr, a deuryw win;  
Pan ràno pen yr Ynys  
Ev a bair ràn i vab Rhys.

52

50. *Y llew o Rôn*, &c. An allusion to Llywelyn having been to Roan.

## XXVI.

I DAVYDD AB MAREDYDD VYCHAN, GLYN IEITHON,  
YN MAELIENYDD, I DDIOLOCH AM VARCH.

THE bard, in the first place, compliments David ab Maredydd by giving him the epithet of Meirchion, and also by saying that he was descended from Athelstan, or Elystan Glodrydd. He then wishes him a long life; and, after enumerating his many amiable qualities, alludes to his being of the families both of Cadogan and Cadwallon. After passing these compliments, he acknowledges the many obligations he was under to his kind patron, and especially for his having presented him with a horse; with which, and the excellent qualities of the animal, the bard appears highly delighted.

MEIRCHION Glyn Ieithon wyd yn nydd a nos,  
Un asen Macliennydd;  
Nid av o'm cartrev un dydd,  
Ond i olyn enw Davydd. 4

Yt *Davydd*, gwinwydd gwlad Gynan, mae rhad;  
*Ab Maredydd Vychan*;  
Dyro i bawb o dri bân,  
Val Ustus, arvau Elystan. 8

Un rhan Elystan wyt i lu daiar,  
Dëyrn Phylip Dorddu;  
Hoedl y grisial i'th dâl du,  
Ac un oes y gan Iesu. 12

I'th adu, Iesu! dywysawg gwinvaeth,  
Garth Gynvyn, Gardd Vaelawg;

XXVI. Addressed to David ab Maredydd Vychan, of Glyn Ieithon, in Macliennydd, thanking him for the horse of which he made the author

a present.

8. *arvau Elystan*, "the armorial bearings of Athelstan," which were gules a lion rampant regardant or.

Penllad Hywel ab Madawg,  
I'th rudd vy mendith y rhawg. 16

Mae rhawg vab oedawg yt roi bwyd a gwin,  
O vrig llin Veirig Llwyd ;  
Mynu urddasu lle'dd wyd  
Mae'r wlad ; môr wrawl ydwyd ! 20

Nid wyt tröedig, na garw ; 'm llaw Gurig !  
Na fyrnig, na dig, hil Gadwgawn !  
Na llesg anuydd, na thlawd i'th wledydd,  
Na chybydd, Davydd wyneb y dawn ! 24

I'r mau'dd wyt ddeuwell nog agos a phell,  
Ac â da wellwell, hil Gadwallawn ;  
Unlled draw'n lle trig Davydd bendevig,  
Yw d'air â Meirig o dir Meiriawn. 28

Rhoist sidan gannos y dydd rhoest diddos,  
A bore a nos a phob awr nawn ;  
Rhoist ym varch teirblwydd didrwm didramgwydd,  
Dy swydd rhoi gorwydd i'th vardd gwiriawn. 32

Natur hwn ytyw dwyn frwyn yn ei friw,  
Dirwyn riw'n gyvliw, bod yn gyvlawn ;  
Gwrandaw ar *glarixen*, neu gainc y mein-gwn ;  
Dan bwn neidiaw yn grwn hyd Gaer Einiawn. 36

22. *hil Gadwgawn*, "of the line of Cadogan." Cadogan was an only son of Elystan Glodrydd. His arms : argent three boars' heads couped sable tusked or, langued gules. The descendants of both quartered these arms. Cadogan in the *first* ; Elystan in the *second* ; the *third* as the *second* ; and the *fourth* as the *first*. The earl Cadogan being descended from Cadwgan, son of Elystan Glodrydd, bears these quarterings for his arms.

David ab Mareddydd Vychan bore

Cadwgan's arms in his *second* and *third* quarters, adding a chevron between the boars' heads.

26. *hil Gadwallawn*, "of the line of Cadwallon."

Cadwallon, son of Rhys ab Gruffydd prince of South Wales, was active in the busy scenes of his father's long reign.

35. *clariwn* = a clarion, a bugle : *corn rhyvel* : *corn hely*.

36. *Caer Einion*, a hundred and manor in Montgomeryshire.

Petai yn llawes yr Arth ar ei wres,  
Brywiau i arthes, bwrw rhai weithiawn :  
Val eilon mynydd y sarf hwn y sydd ;  
Val hydd o'r gweunydd dros gae uniawn. 40

Val iwrech yn ei vlew, val twrch avel tew ;  
Val glân wyddvil glew, val llew vo llawn ;  
Dov Ddywsul Ddavydd i chwi â chywydd  
I ddiolch beunydd, yr hydd a'r rhawn. 44

Dy vardd ar dy varch wyv i'th gyvarch,  
Ein parch vydd d'alarch i'r llu od awn ;  
A gwr yt, ym Grog ! wyv, hardd ; Gardd Vaelog !  
A gwas a marchog megys Meirchiawn. 48

## XXVII.

I DDAVYDD AB LLYWELYN AB GWILYM LLWYD,  
O GASTELL HYWEL.

THIS ode is taken up, partly, with eulogistic notices of the structure of David ab Llywelyn's noble mansion; and, partly, with speaking in praise of the very liberal manner in which he entertained his friends. David ab Llywelyn and his wife, it appears, were not only hospitably disposed, but were also possessed of ample means, to entertain their numerous visitors; for as the house was well built, and on a large scale, so it was also richly stored with the choicest of wines and all kinds of provisions.

BRIG llys gauedig sy Gaer Gwydion, gwyn,  
Ganwyll Ceredigion;  
A iarlles hav yw'r llys hon,  
Llys wên a llawes hinon. 4

Hon yw llys dynion oddiar du Dyved,  
Llys Davydd a Lleucu;  
Chwellys vai uwch o allu;  
Llai ei win, o vewn, a llyn vu. 8

O Gymmru ni bu ni bydd eu cystal,  
Er costiaw nos a dydd;  
Mwyhau y saith, *y salm y sydd*,  
Velly'dd wyv, *oll i Ddavydd*. 12

Tad Davydd, a'i daid da, (tyvwyd alarch!)  
Llywelyn, Gwilym Llwyd;

XXVII. An ode addressed to David ab Llywelyn ab Gwilym Lloyd, of Castell Howell, Cardiganshire.

1. *Gaer Gwydion*, a term used for the galaxy, or the milky way. See *Gwydion* in Dr. W. O. Pughe's Dict.

7. *Chwellys*, &c. that is, one might

go to six mansions, and yet not be entertained so liberally as at Castell Howell.

11. *Mwyhau y saith*, "I will therefore extol the seventh mansion," which is Castell Howell; for "to David belongs the entire praise."

*saith* = seithved.



Ac o Rydderch y gwreiddiwyd  
I roddi bath ; rhydd â bwyd. 16

O'i vwyd a'i win, val neuadd Dinawal !  
O'i vedd, a'i aur mâl, cymal nis cêl ;  
Y gwanwyn gwynav, cyn hau, cynauav,  
Hav, hydrev, gauav, ydd av lle ydd êl. 20

Lleucu velly vydd, lleuad ei llywydd ;  
Llwyn Davydd beunydd a aeth â'r bêl ;  
Llin i Siancyn Llwyd, lloer oll a eurwyd ;  
Hi a deilyngwyd o law angel. 24

Arch dda a merch ddoeth, merch gall a merch goeth,  
Mae o drachyvoeth yn drychavael ;  
Mae ei haur i'm huriaw, mae ei llyn ym o'i llaw,  
Ac o'i llaw ciniaw a *phowdr canel*. 28

Hi, a'i gwr priawd, oedd dda am ddiawd ;  
Ac ar naw diawd, gair yn dawel ;  
Rhoi draw'n nhai o'r drev, a'i edryd adrev,  
Ei arian mae ev ar win a mel. 32

Tir a anturiai annaid ar Rwmnai,  
Malmsai-ryw osai, a gwin Rossiel ;  
Gwin Fraine ar ginio ; gwinber gwin lle bo ;  
Gwin a vo'm eto'n llenwi vy *mhottel*. 36

O goed Bwrddios gwin, ar unsud Reinswin,  
Gasgwin, Verneiswin, wrth vron *reassel* ;  
Cael camplig caled ; caprig, rhyfyg Cred ;  
Clared a Dwsed a Mwsgadel. 40

20. *Lleucu*, the name of David ab Llywelyn's wife. She was the daughter of Ieuan ab Iauelyn, of Llwyn Davydd. See Dosp. III. 28.

33. *Rwmnai*, Rumney or Rompney, a parish in the hundred of Wentlog, Monmouthshire.

34. *Malmsai-ryw*, &c. Malmsy-like cyder.

*Rossiel*, Rochelle wine.

37. *O goed Bwrddios gwin*, " wine from Bourdeaux in wood."

*Reinswin*, Rhenish wine.

38. *Gasgwin*, wine from the country of Gascoigne.

*Verneiswin*, Vernage, or the vinaciola of the ancients.

40. *Clared*, claret.

*Dwsed*, doucet vin ; sweet wine.

*Mwsgadel*, Muscadel.

Mwy win ym o wŷdd a roes, ac a rydd ;  
 Ac a ry Davydd no Gredivel ;  
 Mwy no Bach, mewn banc ; mwy no Frolo Franc ;  
 Yw cost llew ieuanc Castell Hywel. 44

Sêl Castell Hywel yw'r gwr llawen du,  
 O Dywyn i Havren ;  
 A llew yn gwellâu awen  
 Yw, ac oen pawb, ac un pen. 48

A phenadur du fynedig,  
 Am oludoedd canmoledig ;  
 Ac o'r ddeudir gwraig urddedig,  
 O dri sidan yn drwsiedig. 52

Dynion ydynt yn anedig  
 Wedi eu gadu'n vendigedig ;  
 Ac o Dewder lys gadwedig,  
 Ac o Idwal oedd wisgedig. 56

Pob rhyw adar purpuredig  
 I'n a nodant yn enwedig ;  
 Sy o vwydau yn savedig  
 A gai wawdydd vai dysgedig. 60

Yn vyw rydain yn vawredig ;  
 Yn vawr eidion yn verwedig ;  
 Yn veirw adar yn veredig ;  
 Yn vôr adar yn vriwedig ; 64

A gwirodau yn garedig ;  
 Ac aur rodau'n wasgaredig ;

42. *Gredivel*, son of *Idhel Hael*, a saint who lived about the close of the fifth century. He, with his brother *Flewyn*, first presided in the college of *Tŷ Gwyn* on the *Tav*, in *Caermarthenshire*, which they established about A. D. 480, under the direction of *Pawl*, or *Paulinus*.

43. *Frolo Franc*, one of the generals vanquished by the fabulous Ar-

thur. He was a native of France.

46. *O Dywyn i Havren*, "from Tywyn as far as the river Severn."

*Tywyn*, a manor on the sea-coast of *Cardiganshire*, near the mouth of the river *Teivi*. *Rhys*, lord of Tywyn, is celebrated for his hospitality by *Davydd Nanmor*, a contemporary of our bard, if not earlier.

61. *rydain*, a fawn.

Ac o'r adail cysegredig,  
Rhai yn rhodwyr, rhai'n aredig. 68

Ys da adail gosodedig  
Ydyw'r adail didröedig ;  
Ai gwell adail digolledig,  
Ai lledadail cysylltedig ? 72

Y glas adail, yn glosiedig,  
Da, sy adail dewisedig ;  
Y erwys adail, dai croesedig,  
Sy ail adail Emrys Wledig. 76

Gwelcm adail yn glymedig,  
A'i wisg ydyw calch llosgedig ;  
Ac o'r adail egoredig  
Ev aeth adail divethedig. 80

Trwm yw adail tai rhwymedig,  
Tŵr cariadus tir Ceredig ;  
Teml baradwys ; teml buredig ;  
Teml wên ydyw teml nodedig. 84

Nid cul adail main clöedig,  
Ni thyr adail gwneuthuredig ;  
I'n oes, adail cynnwysedig  
Y sydd ; adail ansoddedig ! 88

Y gloyw adail dirgeledig,  
O wyth adail sy weithiedig,  
Yn galch adail yn gylchedig,  
Yn wên adail yn enwedig. 92

Mae'n wŷdd adail, mae'n naddedig ;  
Mae'n wâl adail, mae'n weledig ;  
Mae'n gant adail, mae'n gnotiedig ;  
Mewn gwiw adail mae'n gauedig. 96

## XXVIII.

MARWNAD LLEUCU, MERCH IEUAN AB IANCYN,  
O LLWYN DAVYDD.

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“PLAINTIVE are the notes which the harp pours forth in the hall of Castell Howell, now that the daughter of Ieuan is dead. She is gone to a happier state of existence. However, the loss of her will be long felt. Yea, at Is Aeron and Llwyn Davydd, and by the poor of Gwynionydd, will the loss of her be long felt ! The day that she died was a gloomy day to her friends,—a day of sadness to her husband. We also who are men from the land of Gréal are so dispirited from having lost our bountiful benefactress, that we find no delight in the joyous song. Can it then be surprising, should our grief after her be as the grief of the nation when it lamented the death of king Emrys ? For Lucy was a discreet woman ; and in all her transactions she displayed a great solidity of judgment. Painful indeed was the scene to me, when I witnessed the assembled multitude on the day of her funeral. Woe is me that she is gone !”

---

MAE Lleucu'n llaw Iesu wŷn, a'i chyvoeth,  
Verch Ieuan ab Iancyn !

Mae'n Nghastell Hywel delyn  
I gwynaw gwawr y gwin gwŷn. 4

Gwyn ei byd nev glyd ! gwae wledydd y sir !  
Is Aeron, Llwyn Davydd !  
Gwae ni weiniaid Gwynionydd !  
Gwae hithau'r Deau o'r dydd ! 8

Dydd Lleucu a vu lle caem vwyd a gwin ;  
Dydd gwen-haul Iancyn Llwyd ;  
Dydd du ev a'n gorvuwyd ;  
Dydd llym rhy oer ; dydd llam rhwyd. 12

XXVIII. An elegy on Lucy, daughter of Ieuan ab Iancyn, of Llwyn Davydd. Her husband was David ab Llywelyn ab Gwilym Lloyd. See Dosp. III. 27.

7. *Gwynionydd*, a comot in the hundred of Syrwen, now called the hundred of Troed yr Aur, Cardigan-shire.

I'r rhwyd y'n gŷrwyd, bob gwr, i gwynaw  
 Gwen-haul Rhys ab Tewdwr;  
 Am hon cwyn y dôn o'r dwr;  
 Ewch i'w chwynaw chwechannwr.

16

Gwr prudd oedd Ddavydd lle ydd ym, alarch  
 Llywelyn ab Gwilym;  
 Gwyr o wlad Gréal ydym,  
 Heb awen grev heb win grym.

20

19. *Gwyr o wlad y Gréal ydym*, "we are men from the land of Gréal." By which expression the bard wished to insinuate that he and his fraternity were persons from the circle of Intelligence, distinct from the common herd of mankind who ever move round and round in the circle of Ignorance.

Having only alluded to the Gréal in a former note (Dosp. I. 33. 1.), we will here enter into a short historical account of the work. The word GRÉAL is Welsh, signifying according to Gair ab Geirion, "an aggregate of principles," and in modern language, "a magazine." LLYVY Y GREAL was a ponderous manuscript containing the masonic mysteries of the bardic conclave; among the members of which were Taliesin, Aneurin, Merddin Emrys, &c. The Gréal was full of legends and tales of the Arthurian Round Table, evidently written with a design to sow the seeds, and revive the tenets, of pagan Druidism. It was originally compiled in the Welsh language, in the year A. D. 717; and translated into Latin, as some suppose, by Walter de Mapes, archdeacon of Oxford; and from his version into the Norman French in the year 1220. The original Welsh has been lost for centuries, and hence the hue and cry made after it by the bards of the middle ages, who in fact must have been ignorant of its principles, and tendency to oppose the progress of Christianity in the land. Guto'r Glyn, about A. D. 1450, alludes shrewdly to its contents, in the following lines:

Am un llyvr y mae'n llevain,  
 A gâr mwy nog aur a main;

Y GREAL teg i'r wlad hon—

Llyvr o emwog varchogion;

Llyvr o greft yr holl Vord Gron.

"For one book he is complaining, which he loves more than gold and precious stones, the fair GRÉAL of this country: a book of the famed knights; a book of the mystery of all the Round Table." See *Gréal* in Dr. W. O. Pughe's Dict.

What little is known of the contents of *Llyvr y Gréal* is through the medium of the translation above-mentioned into French,—the fruitful source which furnished materials for the Arthurian and Carlovingian romances of the continental Troubadours. It is from the translation we learn the date of the first copy in Welsh, for it commences abruptly with its date; thus, "I, a sinner, was in a lonely place," &c. As the narrator proceeds he endeavours to impress his readers with a belief that the mystery of bardism was the genuine fruit of divine inspiration. This notion is calculated to lead us to the conclusion that some of the principles contained in the original *Gréal* continued to be preserved in Wales by oral tradition from age to age down to the reign of queen Elizabeth, when Meirig Davydd, of Glamorganshire, collected what fell in his way, and committed them to writing. His fraternity called themselves "Beirdd Ynys Prydain," whilst others termed them "Beirdd Beli," (Priests of the Sun); and latterly, "Gwyr Cwm y Velin,"—probably a corruption of "Gwyr Cyn-Velin," (worshippers of the solar deity). The very few that remain of them lately favoured the public with a disclo-



Heb y gwin grym heb gan' grôd,  
 Heb wisg werdd a heb ysgûd ;  
 Heb arian wedi'r blaned,  
 Heb dda bath y bydd y byd ;

24

Y byd heb vywyd a vu, drwy'r ynys,  
 Ddwyn aco Emrys oedd enw Cymmu ;  
 Heddyw, dwyn gwreigdda'n haeddu ei bendithaw,  
 Y daw'r ail cwynaw ar ol canu.

28

Drylliwyd a diriwyd, daiaru llaw Nyv,  
 Deau â chleddyv wedi ei chladdu ;  
 Diluw dig ydyw ein gadu yn awr,  
 A dwyn lliw y wawr rhwng deunaw llu.

32

sure of some of their mysteries under the several titles of "Coelbren y Beirdd," and "Cyvrinach y Beirdd."

The "Coelbren y Beirdd,"—the Bardic Alphabet, or as it is sometimes called, the Bardic Lot, is a very ingenious and clever invention ; and far better adapted to the Welsh language than the Roman alphabet now in use.

Dr. W. O. Pughe received the Coebren y Beirdd as genuine from the profound antiquarian and poet, the late Mr. Edward Williams, of Glamorganshire, well known by the bardic appellation of Iolo Morganwg.

In the archives of the library of Jesus College, Oxford, there is a mahogany *Peithynen*, on which is inscribed the Bardic alphabet, consisting of 16 primitives and 22 derivatives, cut with a knife by Iolo Morganwg, and presented by him to the College. Dr. W. O. Pughe, in his Grammar, has, however, arranged the order of the alphabet differently to that on the *Peithynen* ; and has also added five letters to the class of derivatives, of which additional letters he acknowledged himself to be the author. But the public have not as yet been informed from what source Mr. Edward Williams received the Bardic alphabet, of which he has been the promulgator ; not to say the inventor.

At the Cardiff Eisteddvod there

was not only an opportunity, but also an ample inducement, for any one to come forward to prove the genuineness of the alphabet ; but no one appeared. The probability is that it would be as difficult to prove its genuineness as it would be for our readers, except to the initiated, to decypher what is called "Cyvrinach y Beirdd," or the Bardic Mystery, which is here subjoined.

#### CYVRINACH BEIRDD YNYS PRYDAIN.

Enw Duw, nid rhydd ei yngan yn glywedig, neu ar glyw.

/N, yn Egwyddawr y deg llythyren.  
 X, yn ol Egwyddawr yr un ar bymtheg.

◇IV, Deunaw llythyren.

◇IV, Ugain llythyren, neu OIW yn llythyrenau yr oes hon.

The above expression, "Cyvrinach y Beirdd," must not be confounded with the title of a book of that name which was edited by Iolo Morganwg, and published (in the year 1829) after his death ; and accompanied with an excellent preface by his son Taliesin ab Iolo. This book is deserving of a place in every library, and should be constantly in the hand of every bard.

22. *ysgûd*=scutum, a shield : a defence, a defender.

26. *Emrys*, see Dosp. I. 22. 50.

29. *Nyv*, a lady celebrated in the Dramatic Tales.

Barnwyd yn orau i brynu, i'r byd ; Ac i roi enyd, ac i rànu ; Pob dyn a vernyn', wrth varnu'n mhell, Y barnai hi'n well no brenin Hu.	36
Atgas y gwelas pan oedd gu cedeirn, Utgryn a llugryn, yn llewygu ; Mair wèn ! ni weled, yn mru gorllewin, Yn deall y gwin ond Ll ac U.	40
Eglwyswyr, borthwyr, yn aberthu'n grwys ; A gwyr yr eglwys oedd yn greiglu ; Dynion yn wŷnion yn ennynu bron ; Dynion yn dduon mewn lliw o ddu.	44
Rhai'n foliaid ; rhai'n drist ; rhai'n faelu, haiach ; Rhai'n dywyllach ; a rhai yn dallu ; Rhai dros vrig Crugos yn crygu hevyd ; Rhai'n crio anwyd ; a rhai'u crynu.	48
Aeth i nev adrev am vedru lle'r aid, Doe am i'w henaid yniwahanu ; A'i phlant ar ei hol, â phlu eryrod, Yno'u eu devod a wnân' dyvu.	52
Py a wnav, od av i du Llan Sulwedd Am win i'w gyvedd ? mae'n gauavu ; Ev a aeth arnav vethu, vy Awen ! Heb wellâu acen nad byw Lleucu.	56
Tyssul sant divul wrth dyvu nevoedd, Oedd yn ei chaeroedd ddoe'n ei charu ; Urvul a Gwenvul a ganvu ; Enog A Dewi oesgu ; a Duw Iesu.	60

35-36. *Pob dyn a vernyn'*, &c. "Any one that had the power of judging would say that she (Lucy) could judge superior to Hu." *Hu* = Hu Gadarn, or Hu the Mighty, the patriarch of the Cymry, who first established them in a civil community, taught them agriculture with other useful arts, and conducted them to the west of Europe. See *Hu Gadarn* in the Camb. Biog. Also *Cywydd i Hu Gadarn* in the Transactions of the Cymmrodorion pp. 38-43. *HU GADARN, CYWYDD O III*

CANIAD : Y gan PORISON. Llundain 1822.

40. *Ll ac U* = Lleuen.

51. *â phlu eryrod*, an expression equivalent to "quick of growth."

57. *Tyssul sant*, the son of Corun ab Ceredig ab Cunedda Wledig, a saint who lived until about the middle of the sixth century. Llan Dysul, on the Severn, in Montgomeryshire ; and another, in Cardiganshire, are dedicated to him. His festival is Jan. 31.



## XXIX.

I DAVYDD AB LLYWELYN AB GWILYM LLWYD,  
O GASTELL HYWEL.

DAVID ab Llywelyn, now that his wife is dead, is looked upon, by the bard, as all in all at Castell Howell. He is said to have inherited the estate in right of both his father and grandfather. The entire poem, besides the above allusion, is in praise of Lucy, David ab Llywelyn's late wife; and also of the orphan children.

Da yw'r Cwrt lle doi'r cartwyr,	
Ac i . . . . .	
Da ddynion ydoedd yno,	
A deunant win dân un tô.	4
Davydd y sydd <i>Bryvai Sêl</i> ,	
A llywiawdr Castell Hywel ;	
O Lywelyn deil aelwyd	
O <i>glaim</i> , y llall Gwilym Llwyd.	8
Iddo ev aeth, yn ddi vâr,	
WEN o Gemais yn gymmhar ;	
Ac hwynt yn rhoi gynt yn rhodd,	
Iesu gwir a'u hysgarodd.	12
Lleucu, Och ! Iesu eisoes,	
Na bai'n hwy un bàn o'i hoes !	
Os cnewyll âch Siancyn Llwyd,	
O'i <i>vryvian</i> ev a rivwyd ;	16
Cnewyll yn vu Leucu lân	
O gnewyll egin Ieuan.	
Cyll Frengig Ceredigion	
A gawn o hil egin hon ;	20

XXIX. Another poem addressed to David ab Llywelyn ab Gwilym Lloyd, of Castell Howell, occasioned by the death of his wife.

5. *Bryvai Sêl*, privy-seal: here lord privy seal. A title of compliment to David ab Llywelyn.

19. *Cyll Frengig*, &c. *literally*,

Llwyn Davydd, mal llanw Dyved, Hudliw oedd ei hyd a'i led ; Cwyn a hud tost cyn oed dydd, Yw'r nawnaint ar Wynionydd :	24
Cwyn Merddin am vrenin vry, Cwyn NO hen cyn no hyny. Dydd Lleucu oedd ddydd duocr, Dydd a lliw diwedd y lloer ;	28
Diluw ydyw i dlodion, A diwedd haul yw dydd hon. Wedi dwyn o dŷ Deinioel, O varch gwŷdd Elen verch Goel	32
Trist oedd Von gyvion a'i gwyr, A rhyw van o'r Rhuvainwyr. Dwyn Lleucu yn rhy vuan A wnaeth y llev yn wyth Llan ;	36
Dwyn bu o'i dodî'n y bedd, Dwyn bân o waed naw bonedd ; Y creawdr a'r Sacriās A ddyg y wraig dda ei gras.	40
Mae Elisabeth am les byd * * * * *	
Ni wn yn mysg y naw môr, Lai cwyn am Leucu Ionor.	44
GWEN a roi, 'r Gwener a Iau, Gwin i bawb gwyn o bibau ; Gwnai a mwy o gân a mel, Gost ; lleuad Gastell Hywel !	48
Cawn ei haur riv, cawn ei rhodd, Canmiliwn a'i canmolodd. Môr oer oedd ym yr arwyl, Mil cant am Leucu a wyl ;	52
Lleucu a aeth, orlliw cân, I lys Iesu val Susan ;	

“ the walnut trees of Cardiganshire.”  
But in reality the bard wished to in-  
simiate that David ab Llywelyn's  
children would, when they grew up

into manhood, be persons of high  
stature, robust, and stately ; and, at  
the same time, highly esteemed in  
their native country.

A'i phlant a dyvant ar dir,	
A'i hwyrion hi a eurir.	56
Ac o hil yr unwraig hon	
Y goreurir gorwyrion ;	
A'i hesilltydd vydd, hyd varn,	
Val coed o avel cadarn ;	60
Ac hyd yr êl gwehelyth,	
A <i>sine fine</i> ; a phyth.	

## XXX.

I RYDDERCH AB RHYS AB LLYWELYN VOETHUS,  
O GETHINIOG.

RODERICK ab Rice is described as a person of great wealth ; and as having several mansions. It is moreover said of him that he was a person of extensive reading, and one well versed in the Holy Scriptures. In a word, the character which the bard gives of him is that of a complete gentleman, and a good Christian.

Yr hydd, a gysdadla rhawg	
Wyth ynys, o Gethiniawg ;	
Rhydderch ab Rhys no'r rhwyddwÿnt	
Arian ac aur a roi yn gynt.	4
Alarch o gorf Llywelyn	
Voethus, o waed Ezekelus wÿn.	
<i>Cleimicd</i> a dalied ystent	
A <i>gleimiodd</i> yr hen Glement.	8
Ni chaed yn nhir mab Cadell,	
Ond y tad, berchen tŷ well.	
I Rys ab Grufydd yr oedd	
Yn laswydr swrn o lysoedd.	12
Yn Llandecwÿn yn Ngwynedd	
Yr oedd lŷs a roddai wledd ;	
Llys wÿn yn Llan Gathen gynt,	
Yn ol hòno a welynt ;	16
Ac mewn llwyn o'r D'ryslwyn draw,	
Ydd oedd y drydedd iddaw.	
Neuadd o vain nadd yn un,	
I Rydderch sy chwaer iddyn' ;	20
Cymmhar Dinas y Gàrai,	
Wedi ei dad, yw ei dai.	

XXX. Addressed to Roderick ab Rice ab Llywelyn Voethus.

5. *Llywelyn Voethus*, (the fourth in descent from Elidyr Goch, and the eighth from Elystan Glodrydd,) son of Llywelyn Ddu ab Owain by his wife Ellen, daughter of Gwilym ab Gwrwaered, lord of Cemmaes.

Llywelyn Ddu was son of Owain

ab sir Grufydd, esq. of the body-guard to king Edward III.

8. *yr hen Glement*, by this epithet the bard meant none other, probably than " yr hen Llywelyn Voethus," the grandfather of Rhydderch.

13. *Llandecwÿn*, a parish near Harlech, in Merionethshire.

21. *Dinas y Gàrai*, " an old castle

Y gwyr a wnaeth ar groen fych, Dai o'r <i>Veri</i> 'n drev vawrwych.	24
Gwnaeth Rhydderch ar lanerch las Ryw dai un waith a'r Dinas.	
Bwriad Llewelyn ab Iorwerth Drwyndwn, a wnai hwn a'i nerth.	26
Yr hwn a wnaeth o'r un rhyw, Tai Maenan val Cwrt Mynyw.	
Tewdwr a wnaeth tai wedy O flwr y vro wrth Flur vry.	32

(in Lincolushire), now called Castor, by the Saxons Ðuang-ceaſter, or Thong Caster, and by the Britons Caer y Gàrai. In both languages it takes its name from the circumstance of cutting a hide into thongs like *Byrsa* the famous citadel of Carthage. Our chronologists pretend that Hengist the Saxon after defeating the Scots and Picts obtained of Vortigern very extensive possessions in other parts of the kingdom, but here could obtain only as much land as he could encompass with a bull's hide cut into small shreds, or as we call them *thongs*, on which he built the castle." Camden's Britannia.

23. *Y gwyr a wnaeth*, &c. an allusion to the Saxons building Thong-caster on a land which was before looked upon as useless waste.

24. *Veri* = Beria, or Berea, a flat, wide plain or heath; and from hence several large meadows, or open grounds, are still called *Beries* or *Berifields*. Bailey's Dict.

30. *Tai Maenan* = Mynachlog Maenan. An abbey originally built by Llywelyn ab Iorwerth, at Aber Conwy; but when Edward I. selected its site for his new castle (Conwy castle), he had it translated, in 1289, to Maenan, near Llanrwst, where it remained till the dissolution by Henry VIII. It then came into the possession of sir Richard Clough, knt., who gave it as a portion to his daughter Mary who was married to William Wynn, esq. of Melai, ancestor of the present possessor, lord Newborough. See a more full account of Maenan Abbey, in the rev. Robert Williams' History of Aberconwy.

*Cwrt Mynyw*, the cathedral church

of St. David's. Pope Calixtus, by whom St. David was canonized, had, it seems, raised this place to a rank second only to the pontifical city itself, in the meritorious efficacy of the pilgrimages made to it, having declared that two visits to St. David's were equal to one to Rome. This indulgence is preserved in the following lines:

Meneviam pete bis, Romam adire  
si vis  
Æqua merces tibi, redditur hic et  
ibi;  
Roma semel quantum dat bis Menevia tantum.

This is expressed in a Welsh couplet:

Dos i Ruvain unwaith, ac i Vynyw  
ddwywaith,  
A'r un elw cryno a gai di yma ac  
yno;

which the late Iolo Morganwg has thus humourously paraphrased;

Would haughty popes your senses  
bubble,  
And once to Rome your steps  
entice;  
'Tis quite as well, and saves much  
trouble,  
Go visit old saint *Taffy* twice.

31. *Tewdwr a wnaeth*, &c. "Tewdwr made a building on the banks of the river *Flur*." An allusion to the famous Cistercian monastery, founded in the year 1164, by the puissant prince, commonly called "the lord Rhys ab Tewdwr of South Wales." The cemetery is said to have been once extending over 120 acres; and Leland says that there were upon it thirty-nine yew trees, but of which a few only now remain. Several of

Gwnaeth <i>Hywel Dda</i> noddva'n well Yn mrig coedwig <i>ab Cadell</i> .	
Dynion vu'n prydu yna, Wrth ei ddysg, Gyvraith oedd dda.	36
Doeth, o Lywelyn Voethus, Yn iaith y lleill a wnaeth llys. B'le cai'r un a âi 'n ei ol, Pe bai esgob pob ysgol?	40
Ni wŷr undyn o'r India, Er ei ddysg, a wŷr o dda. <i>Croniell</i> pob cŵr o'r ynys A wŷr, a'r rhol; cryr Rhys!	44
Ni wn iddo evo vod Ar y Bibl air heb wybod. Nid tebyg mewn sirig serch, (Er Addav) un i Rydderch.	48
O <i>hwsmonaeth</i> ni wnaeth neb, A wnaeth hwn yn noethineb. Iddo ev mae neuadd valeh, Ac un wengaer gân wŷngalch;	52
Ac o gylch ogylch i hon, Naw o arddau yn wyrddion; Perllanwydd a gwinwydd gŵyr, Derw ieuaine hyd yr awyr.	56
Derwen y sir drwy naw serch, O ddau wreiddyn oedd Rydderch. Pren pêr, a philer, a pharch, Pedr ieuanc y Padriarch.	60
Pwy'n well a vedr ymgellwair? Padarn Beisrudd Grufydd grair. Pab Rhuvain tir Cethiniawg, Bwa yw Rhys vo byw rhawg.	64

the princes of the house of Dinevor were here interred. It is now in ruins, standing to the south of the present chapel of Ystrad Flur, or, Strata Florida, erected in the cemetery of the abbey.

62. *Padarn Beisrudd*, a hero of Romance, afterwards a hermit and

founder of churches. *Pais Padarn Beisrudd*, un o'r tri thlws ar ddeg Ynys Prydain.

Padarn's coat, which was reckoned among the thirteen beautiful specimens of workmanship of the isle of Britain, would fit, it is said, no man but himself.



## XXXI.

I RUFYDD AB HYWEL AB DAVYDD AB CADWALADR,  
O'R BACHELLDREV, YN MHLWYV YR YSTOG.

THE bard's motive in presenting this poem to Griffith ab Howell was to rouse him to take arms in the great contest of the period. He insinuates himself into Griffith's favour, first, by alluding to his office as the steward (Lieutenant) of the manor of Cours Castle; and, then, by reminding him of his being the son of a warlike father, and possessing the wealthy estate of his grandfather Cadwallader.

Having done this, the bard points out to him what duty he, as one of the leading characters of the day, owed to his country; and that was, to enlist persons to serve in the cause of Edward IV. This he does, with some degree of ingenuity, by saying that as the world could not exist without the succession of night and day, and the different seasons; and as there could be no minstrel without a kind patron; and as the festival, where Griffith was expected to come, could not, unless he were present, afford any real enjoyment to the bard; and as the mountain, the sea, the diamond, and the marble, were lasting; and as the fame of illustrious persons could never die; so Griffith also will no longer be allowed to exist without his name being recorded in song commemorative of his heroic deeds. Now, he says, is the time for action; for when the Saxons had once made themselves masters of Essex, the song which tended to excite the warrior to valourous acts became of no avail. Since that time, however, king Offa has raised a dyke consisting of Saxon mound, and extending itself from sea to sea; and your mansion borders on that dyke, and as we are threatened with further encroachments, exert yourself, and let your sword be unsheathed in behalf of our nation.

YR unben o *Lutenont*,  
A gawn yn ben, ac yn bont;  
Grufydd, gywerthydd Arthur,  
Ab Hywel deg â'r pawl dur;  
Dolydd *Davydd* yw d'avael,  
Doldir hen *Gadwaladr* hael.

4

XXXI. Addressed to Griffith ab Howell ab David ab Cadwallader, of Bachelldrev (now Bachelldre), in the parish of Churchstoke, Montgomeryshire.

1. *Lutenont*. By the term *Lutenont* occurring twice in the poem,

we are led to understand that Griffith was steward of the manor of *Cours*, under the lords thereof, who dwelt at Cours castle, in the parish of Westbury, now in ruins.

4. *Hywel deg â'r pawl dur*, "Howell of the steeled lance."



Mÿn v'arglwydd ! mae dwy swydd deg I'wch ei hun ; ond oes chwaneg.	8
Swydd dy arglwydd ar deirgwlad, Swydd i ti'n ngorsedd y tad ;	
<i>Arestiau</i> rhai'n yr Ystog, Gwin yw'r llall a gawn a'r llog.	12
Blaenor wyd, ac egoriad, Bâr a chlo a braich y wlad ;	
A phen, ac arglwydd, a phont, Y wlad hon a'i <i>Lutenont</i> ;	16
A dwrn, a chleddau, a dart, A throed i Briv-lythyr Edwart.	
Uchel yw tannau'r delyn, Uchel wyd oll uwch law dyn ;	20
Cildant aco o haelder Wyd i bawb am ddiawd bêr ;	
Ac yn uch no deg o Nudd, O driphwnc, yr wyd Ruffydd.	24
Heb nos, heb ddydd, ni bydd byd, Heb hav rhagwyneb hevyd ;	
Ni bydd cerddawr a'i lawrodd Byw heb wr hael am bob rhodd.	28
Ni chwardd goreuvardd o gred, O bod wyl, heb dy weled.	
Ni ddervydd mynydd, na môr, Na maen <i>diemwnt</i> , na mynor ;	32
Ni ddervydd, vab bedydd ! byth, Gair hael i'r gwir wehelyth.	
Mal geiriau 'Vengyl Ieuan Ytyw'r gerdd i ti a'r gân ;	36
Y dydd yr aeth, nid oedd raid, Essex wên i Saxoniaid.	
OFFA 'wnaeth yn fin wŷthawr Drwy'r <i>Mars</i> , rhag hil Rhodri Mawr,	40

39. *Offa* 'wnaeth, &c. " King Offa, in order to guard against the descendants of Rhodri the Great, made along the marches a feud-

exciting bound, even a dyke which extends itself from sea to sea."

*Gwŷthawr*, wrath-exciting : rage, anger, indignation, contention.

Gwely o'r môr i gilydd, O bridd Sais, val bwrdd y sydd. Mae't brivlys, mae't ddwylys dda, Grufydd ! o tân gaer Offa ;	44
Ennyn gweryl i'th ynys, Idwal iwrch ! o vewn dy lys ; A gwybydd Grufydd yn gryv, Dan y Clawdd, dŷnu cleddyv ;	48
I ryddhau, drwy'r arwydd hwn, Y dan Iesu dy <i>nasion</i> ; Gwna ddwy adwy drwy'r ddeudir, Gyda <i>rhôs</i> , â'r gwaywdur hir ;	52
Tŷn dy arvau ar vryn vry, Tôr lwybr tua'r hil obry. Trimeib Noe ddoe oedd ddiwyd, Tri'n y <i>barc</i> 'wnaeth traian byd ;	56
Trydydd wyt Rufydd o'r tri, Tair rhan ytyw y rhei'ni ; Teiroes y bych gaterwen I dir y <i>Mars</i> draw. Amen.	60

43. *mae't brivlys*—*tân gaer Offa*.  
An allusion to Bachelldrev, Griffiths' mansion, which was situated about half a mile to the west of Offa's dyke. Bachelldrev in course of time, about

the reign of queen Elizabeth, became the property of the lords of Chirbury ; and by exchange of property, it now belongs to Edward Farmer, esq.

## XXXII.

## I RYS AB EINION, O GARN AVAN.

THE bard appears in raptures at the thought of going to Carn Avan, being persuaded, from his previous visits, of meeting with a hearty reception there. For Carn Avan was famed, not only as being the place where the minstrel would be entertained with good eating and drinking; but also where he would be handsomely rewarded with a piece of gold from the hands of Rice ab Einion. And speaking of Rice as having distinguished himself in the war between the rival roses, the bard says, that as a warrior he had added honour to the already acquired laurels of his ancestors. He then alluding to Rice's armorial bearings takes occasion, whilst blazoning them, to speak again in praise of his warrior.

Mi av at Nudd Carn Avan,  
 Lle'r â gwyllt, a llawer gwân;  
 Lle cav gàn, lle cav giniaw;  
 A gwin drud o'r Gien draw. 4  
 Mae son drwy'r eigion am Rys,  
 Mab Einion yn mhob ynys.

Aur (es encyd) ŵyr Siancyn  
 Ab Rhys a gaed i'm pwrs gwên; 8  
 Aur o'i eiddaw, ŵyr Rhydderch!  
 A roes ym a'i eiriau serch.  
 O charai rai vai iach rydd  
 Win yn llawn, a llawenydd; 12  
 Aen' i nev, a iawn a wnân'  
 Ac o'r nev i Garn Avan.  
 Bid nesnes nev yn mhresen,  
 Bid ar dir mab Udryd wên. 16

XXXII. Addressed to Rice ab Einion, of Carn Avan. He was a descendant of sir Gruffydd ab Elidir, knight of Rhodes, whose arms he bore; namely, argent, on a cross sable five crescents or, dexter canton a spear's head gules.

Sir Gruffydd ab Elidir ornamented

his grand cross with five lunettes in token, it is said, of his having taken five banners, charged with as many Turkish crescents. Descendants, "Llywelyn Voethus" and Llan Gathen men.

16. *Udryd* = *Uchtryd* (Oughtred), a bishop of Llandaf, who was of ex-

Ban cad ceidwad ben cadair,  
 Y cad pen dwywlad, neu dair ;  
 Ban gad Rhys â bon gwayw trwm,  
 Ev a gad i'r gad godwm. 20  
 Rhys, yn mhob ystlys i'r byd,  
 I ddeu-Rys ev a ddeiryd.  
 Rhys hen, o Lan Gathen gynt,  
 Ar vâ caer vawr y cerynt ; 24  
 Wedi ev Rhys ab Davydd,  
 Yn mrig gwlad Geredig rydd ;  
 Rhys drydydd hydd, ar eu hol,  
 Eu hwyr hwyntau a'u rhentol. 28

Yspeinniau Rhys ab Einion  
 A oera Sais yr oes hon.  
 Gwrda a gystadla dau  
 Yw'r du ieuanc o'r Deau ; 32  
 Gorau dau vaen ger dwy vil,  
 Heb liw burw, *sabl a beril*,  
 Du yw nos hav dan y syr,  
 Du yw'r *vernagl* drwy varnwyr ; 36  
 Deuliw'n benav a gavad,  
 Du a gwÿn, os Duw a'u gad :  
 Y du oll, os deallwn,  
 Sain Franses a hofes hwn. 40  
*Guls* a gwyrdd, a glas i gyd,  
 Du sy well wedi y syllid ;  
 Dyall er eurad wellwell,  
 Duw a wnaeth y du yn well. 44  
 Tecav lliw dan furvaven  
 Du ar wr, ond llwydaw'r ên ;

emplyary piety, and a zealous reformer  
 of church discipline, according to the  
 testimony of Caradoc the historian.  
 He died in the year 1146.

17, 19. *Ban cad* = Pan y caed.

18. *Y cad* = Y caed.

20. *Ev a gad &c.*—Ev a gaed i'r  
 gad godwm.

40. *Sain Franses*, an allusion to  
*black* being the distinguishing colour  
 of the Franciscan order.

41. *Guls* = Gules, (in heraldry)  
 signifies the red colour ; in engrav-  
 ing, it is made by perpendicular lines  
 from the top of the escutcheon to the  
 bottom.

Ni chair hael i 'mravaelu,	
Na dewr, na doeth, ond o'r du ;	48
Da yw Rhys, vlodau rhosyn,	
Duw a wnel y du yn wŷn ;	
Gorau mab hyd gaerau Mon,	
Ei liw iawn yw hil Einion ;	52
Ei vab nid rhaid gyda'i vaeth	
Dim mwy onid mammaeth.	
Nid rhaid i enaid ddim da,	
Na dim einioes ond manna ;	56
I minnau tra vwy i'm ynys,	
Nid rhaid onid Duw a Rhys.	

## XXXIII.

I OVYN CYVRWY GAN IEUAN AB MAREDYDD AB IEUAN  
AB MORGAN, O LAN AVAN VAWR YN MUALLT.

THE bard pledges himself ever to sing in praise of Ieuan ab Meredith. And begins with extolling his liberality. He then alludes to his having eight grey chargers, and to his prowess in the field of battle. After this, speaking of him as a generous patron of the bards, and one who had frequently invested them with the insignia of their office, he makes bold, in consequence, to trespass on his kindness, assuring himself that Ieuan would present to him, not as aforetime, the insignia of the bardic office, but, on this occasion, a saddle. And that his patron should not be at a loss to know what sort of a saddle it was he wanted, he furnishes him with a minute description of it.

PRYDYDD, tra vo gwŷdd a gwellt,  
Wyv i Ieuan o Vuellt.  
Bwa Mareddydd ab Ieuan  
Ab Morgant, uwch trichant rhan. 4  
Mi a welav o'r Moelwyn  
Milwr âg wyth *amler* gwŷn.  
I'r milwr y mae elin  
A wnai drwst â'i wayw'n y drin; 8  
Un yw vo'n Llan Avan Vawr  
A ry gwyrdd ar ei gerddawr;  
A throi ei aur yn wyth ran,  
A'i rivaw yn nhir Avan. 12  
Llyna enw, nid llai no Nudd,  
Llew 'mrwydr ar ddull Mareddydd;  
Eryr Avan ar ryvel,  
Onen swydd Dinan, a'i sêl; 16  
*Concwest* o waed Elestan.  
*Concwered* o'r wythved ran.

XXXIII. Addressed to Ieuan ab Meredith ab Ieuan ab Morgan of Llan Avan Vawr, in the hundred of Builth, Brecknockshire.

5. *Moelwyn*, a man's name.

16. *Dinan*=Llys Dinan, in the parish of Llan Avan Vawr.

Gwaith cerddorion hyd Gonwy	
Goreuraw gwalch goror Gwy ;	20
Bardd vum ba arwydd vai well	
Obry i geddeirn bro Gadell ;	
Bardd weithian i Ieuan wyv	
Yn bwrw ato a brytwyv ;	24
Ac i'w vardd, pwy bynag vo,	
Ev a rydd gyvrwy iddo.	
Ni'm dawr mwy o gyvrwy'n gau	
A vo uchel ei vachau ;	28
Anhawdd esgynu unawr	
Yn gryno mewn ei gyrrn mawr ;	
Anhawdd disgyn vy hunan	
O'i gyrrn i lawr yn grwn lân.	32
Minnau sy'n ei ddamunaw,	
Val llwy wag, neu avel llaw ;	
Val garan lydan ar led,	
Val y gaer voel egored ;	36
A'i vlaen yn gorrloew uniawn,	
Ac ar vy ol i 'n gorrloew iawn ;	
Yn dew ei glust, ond ei glog,	
Yn odeneu, 'n adeiniog ;	40
Yn hwy no llath ei ddwyâr,	
Yn grwn, yn gau, ar ei wâr.	
Os archav tanav ystôl	
A ddaw wrth y ddwy warthol.	44
Ieuan a gâr yn y gwin	
Roi i'w vardd gadair Verddin ;	
Mi a gav o blwyv Avan	
Gyvrwy ym mysg y gwevr mân ;	48
Ac yn vrith ddigon ei vrest,	
Ac yn wÿn, ac yn onest ;	
Ac yn loew oll, ac yn lân,	
Ac yn newydd gan Ieuan.	52

17. *Elestan* = Elystan Glodrydd.24. *a brytwyv* = a brydwyv.



## XXXIV.

I DAVYDD AB MAREDYDD AB IEUAN AB MORGAN  
O LAN AVAN VAWR YN MUALLT.

THIS poem opens with complimenting David ab Meredith with the epithet of *Avan* of *Builth*; and also by saying that he was of the lineage both of *St. David* and *St. Teilo*. In the next place he is represented to be a Welshman who was an ornament to the land of his birth; and one, who was not only possessed of solid judgment, but also shewed by his actions that he was governed by high and honourable principle.

Joan, the beautiful and youthful bride of Meredith, next receives her meed of praise.

PRYDU yt *Avan* Buellt  
Yr wyv o gerdd riv y gwellt;  
Mab *Cedig Ceredigiawn*,  
(*Avan* wyt) drwy 'sgriven iawn; 4  
Ab *Cunedda*, wr da doeth,  
Wledig, cevn gwlad y cyvoeth,  
*Ab Edeyrn* hŷn, *Badarn* hael  
*Peisrudd*, val imp o *Israel*. 8  
*Câr Dewi* wŷn, mŷn *Cred*! wyd,  
*Câr i Deilo* *ancr* dulwyd;  
*Esgob* yn y teircob tau  
Wyd sant o'u *lindys* hwyntau. 12  
I'th blwyv mae *Cymmro* dwyvol,  
Ev a wna'r plwyv yn ei ol;  
*Davydd* ab *Mareddydd* ran  
O *sidanwaith* *Llys Dinan*; 16

XXXIV. Addressed to David ab Meredith ab Ieuan ab Morgan, of *Llys Dinan*, in the parish of *Llan Avan Vawr*.

1. *Avan*, son of *Cedig* ab *Cunedda* Wledig ab *Edeyrn* ab *Padarn* Beisridd, a saint and founder of *Llan Avan Vawr*, and *Llan Avan Vach*,

in *Buallt*, whence he is styled *Avan Buallt*. There is a church also in *Cardiganshire* dedicated to him.

*Buellt* = *Buallt* (now corrupted into *Builth*), a district in *Brecknockshire*.

12. *lindys* = lineage.

10. *ancr* = an anchorite: *mynach*, *meudwy*.

Llin Ieuan ab Morgan hael, Llew tir Buellt a'i hurael.	
Ni bydd, eithr Davydd, un dyn Neb mal Ieuan ab Moelwyn ;	20
Gair a dyv gwir o'i davod, Gwir a vŷn y gwr ei vod.	
Nid oes gair na chadeirir, Nid â i'r gadair ond gair gwir ;	24
Ei davawd yw'r bragawd brau I roi <i>vernaïs</i> ar varnau.	
E vu saith yn rhivaw ser, Am ryw dyb, yn mro Diber ;	28
Eu saith chwedl i'r genedlaeth A gadwai mab gwedi maeth :	
Davydd wythved yw evo, Dêl i'w vab ei chwedl e vo.	32
Duw o Evrai, ym dwyvron ! A roes hen ysgriven grôn,	
Val y rhoes yn <i>nhabl</i> Moesen Yn nghwêr rhol y dengair hen.	36
Dau enw, er nad un unocd, Yn vy rhol o nev y rhoed ;	
Enw Iesu vu, ac a vydd, Yn y <i>dawl</i> a henw Davydd.	40
Deuair, mŷn Mair ! ar vy min Doe a leisiodd Daliesin ;	
Gair am sallwyr Vair a vu Gair Siwan i'w groesawu.	44
Merch Rhys, wrth bumbys o'r banc, Yw Siwan vedrus ieuanc ;	
Enid Gruffydd yw'r waneg, Wyr Ricert yw a'r gair teg.	48

28. *yn mro Diber*, on the banks of the river Tiber.

29. *Eu saith chwedl, sev saith chwedl gwyw doethion Rluvain.* See in p. 527 of *Llyvr Coch of Hergest* (MS.), The tale of the seven wise men, written by Llywelyn Ofeiriad.

33. *Dau o Ebrai*, Duw yr Hebreaid : the God of the Hebrews.

40. *y dawl*, here a tablet.

46. *Nican*, Joan, David ab Meredith's wife. She was a native (see line 52) of Cantrev Selyv.

* * * *	awd	
Arwydd yn ei phum 'mlwydd fawd.		
I Vuellt hwnt, velly y tyv,		
Y troes haul Cantre Selyv ;		52
I Lan Avan le nevol,		
I làn Llys Dinan uwch dôl ;		
Gorau llys rhwng Gwy a'r Llan		
Yw, lles dawnus, Llys Dinan.		56
Rhos Ddinan a amcanav		
I vâ'n Caer Ddinan ydd av,		
Ni'm cair, ac ni'm dawr na'm caid,		
O Gaer Ddinan Gawr ddeunaid.		60
Siwan sy'n Llys Dinan deg,		
Davydd uvydd un oveg ;		
Davydd heddiw a Siwan,		
Dau a eilw gwledd ar dâl glân ;		64
Da Siwan vechan am vudd,		
Da a ievanc yw Davydd ;		
Da i bawb ynt, da bob un,		
Da oeddynt, da Duw iddyn.'		68

GWAITH  
LEWIS GLYN COTHI.

DOSPARTH IV.

LLWYTHAU CYMYSG YN ELVAEL, MAELIENYDD,

&c.

I.

MARWNAD EINION AB IEUAN AB LLYWELYN  
AB MAREDYDD GAM.

THIS poem is of a mixed composition: the former part is taken up in praise of the good qualities of the deceased; and the remainder is a satire on a certain class of monks, called the Fraternity, and on venders of relics and images of saints.

YS da wr ei ystyriaeth,  
Brenin nev ! Ebyrnan' aeth ;  
Einion vab Ieuan, un vodd,  
Hil Llywelyn, lle hwyliodd ? -4  
Mwyav oedd o'r gwyr, meddynt,  
M'redydd Gam i roi dydd gynt,  
O wyr Elved, riawlvedd ;  
Einion ei wŷr yn un wedd. S  
Ocn Duw oedd Einion 'n ei dai,  
A llew llwyd lle y llidiai ;

I. An elegy on Einion ab Ieuan ab Llywelyn ab Maredydd Gam, of Ebyrnant, now Abernant, a parish in Cantrev Elved, in the county of

Caermarthen.

7. *riawlvedd*, princely mead ;  
princely entertainment.

Cwrw a gai, is Crug Ieuan, Ddoe bawb ; a medd o bob màn.	12
Blaenidl wrth blaned loew oedd, Bragawd lŷn, brig ydlanoedd ; Carai gerdd pob pencerdd pêr, Ceisiai gabl, casâi <i>gobler</i> .	16
Ei vwnai evo Einiawn A urddai wyr â cherdd iawn ; A di lesg y rhoi i dlawd Bara da brau, a diawd ;	20
Llaweroedd oll o arian, Lletŷ clyd, a lle teg glân.	
Ni charai ev, yn iach rydd, <i>Frathr</i> mwy no pherthi'r mynydd ;	24
Bob ddau y gler a ddeuyn'. Bob dri vry i dŷ pob dyn : Wrth y drws, un â'i grwth drwg, A baw arall â'i berwg ;	28
O'r lle bai arall â'i bib A rhyw abwy â rhibib. Un a bryn, er na bai'r wedd, Delw o wydr er dwy lodwedd ;	32
Arall a wnai, o'r lle noeth, O gŵr gwernen grair gwarnoeth ; Un a arwain, yn orïog, GURIG lwyd dan gŵr ei glog ;	36
Gwas arall a ddwg SEIRIOL, A naw o gaws yn ei gôl ;	

13. *Blaenidl* (blaen-hidl), dyverion cyntav y gerwyn : *first-shot* ; *sweet wort*.

24. *Frather* (frater), a member of the *Frateria*, a fraternity or brotherhood. This was originally a society of religious persons who were mutually bound to pray for the health, &c. of their living brethren, and also the souls of those who were dead. *Bailey*.

36. *Gurig lwyd dan* &c. CURIG, a bishop, probably of Llanbadarn Vawr. He was the founder of Llan Gurig, Montgomeryshire; and his

crosier was preserved in the neighbouring church of St. Harmon's in the time of Giraldus Cambrensis. REES's *Welsh Saints*. See also Dosp. I. VII. line 28.

37. *Seiriol*. Seiriol, the brother, or according to other accounts, the nephew of Einion Vrenin, was the first president of the college of Penmon, which became so celebrated that "the men of Llychlyn," or the Scandinavian rovers, resorted there for religious instruction. REES's *Welsh Saints*.







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